This is a short

RELATION

Of some of the

Cruel Sufferings

(For the Truths sake) of

KATHARINE EVANS & SARAH CHEVERS,

In the Inquisition in the

ISLE of MALTA,

Who have suffered there above three years, by the Pope's Authority, there to be detained till they dye. Which Relation of their sufferings is come from their own hands and mouths, as doth appear by the following Treatise.

These two Daughters of *Abraham* were passing to *Alexandria*, and to *Cilicia*, And thus may that part of Christendom see their fruits, together with the Pope's, and of what birth they are; and that those that are called Christians are worse than Heathens: For they falling into their hands, should have been refreshed by them with necessary things; but the provision which the Inhabitants and Knights of *Malta*, (called *Christians*) provided for them, is the Inquisition. Now it was not so when *Paul* suffered shipwrack there among the barbarous people; which is a manifest token they are not in the love of God, whose fruits shew they are not in the true Spirit.

And this is to all fellow-brethren that are partakers with them in the Power of God, and have a feeling and fellowship with them in their sufferings, that they might see and know how it is with them, and what unkindness they find abroad among those that profess themselves Christians.

LONDON, Printed for *Robert Wilson* 1662.

An Epiſtle to the Readers.

MAny there be among the Nations in the world, that in their haſte have unjuſtly condemned the innocent, guiltleſs and harmleſs people of the Lord of Hoſts (ſcornfully called Quakers) viz. That they are Papiſts, Jeſuits, and what elſe, adhering to the Whoriſh falſe Church of Rome; I ſay to ſuch on this wiſe, which is my advice as a man to his friend, to whom this may come, Be not haſty to judge before the time, as many do to their own hurt, guilt and condemnation, before they have a clear and right underſtanding of the things that differ from equity and truth, and ſo the nobility of the mind which ſhould weigh and paſs true ſentence of ſound and perfect judgment, the ſame being vailed with a haſty dark ſpirit of prejudice, or evil ſurmiſing, which gets up into the ſeat of enmity, and therein paſſeth ſentence of the pure way and things of God as evil, hereſie, and what elſe; and thus it comes to paſs, and indeed it cannot be otherwiſe with ſuch that have not their minds ſtaied and fixed in that which is perfect and true, and clear, and ſingle, as is the clear manifeſtation of the grace of life, which is the Light of the Lord Jeſus ſhining in the heart and conſcience of the Sons and Daughters of men; and the ſame Light of the Lord which lightneth the poor and deceitful man's eyes, is the true meaſure and equal ballance, which all is to trie, and prove, and weigh words, thoughts, intents, ways, and actions, whether they be juſtifiable or condemnable; and hereby with the ſame meaſure of the true Spirit of God who is Light, is true ſentence to be paſſed accordingly: For if that which is perfectly true be meaſured with a falſe meaſure, or with an unequal Ballance, it doth appear ſo to all that behold the ſame with an evil eye, or meaſure that with the ſame meaſure; ſave onely to them that diſcern the meaſure, weight, or ballance; as for inſtance as to the thing natural, if a deceitful man with a falſe meaſure,

being guided by a deceivable Spirit (al-be-it his eyes are inlightened with the Light of the Lord, which is true) if he
Prov. 29. measure a piece of cloth to his Customer, with his deceitful measure, though the cloth be good, yet he not giving it its true measure, the simple hearted is thereby deceived, and knoweth it not till it be brought to a true measure, which doth answer the true principle, or Light of God in the conscience to justification, as doth not the false, but contrariwise; wherefore its needful, and of absolute concernment, for the mind of every man male and female, to be guided and exercised in the true manifestation of the Light of Jesus in the conscience; and so blessed is the man, the people, the family that brings their deeds to the Light, that they may be manifest that they are wrought in God who is Light, who is Truth; and so what is here following written and published is to be tried, and proved by the Witness of God in every Conscience which is true, and will answer to the same things or words that springs forth from its own clear nature.

Therefore, when thou hast honestly read this throughout with a meek spirit of sobriety and moderation that's single and pure, then with the same spirit of singleness, and of true discerning judge honestly, and cease from hastiness in such matters of Eternity, least a place of Repentance become finally hid from thine eies, not to salvation, but contrariwise, which I desire not, neither doth the Lord, whose servant a living and true Witness I am, for Him, his Truth and People, of these things and much more.

Wherefore let the Reader see hereby, how that the Lord hath chosen the foolish things of this life to confound the wise, and that the living God Eternal hath chosen the weak things, to confound and bring to nought the things that are mighty, subtil, and potent, yea, base things which are so deemed despisable, and contemptible, yet behold God hath chosen them, and things that are not approvable in the sight of the prudent of this world, even to bring to nought things that are: But may some say, Wherefore, or why doth the most High, Wise, Invisible, Immortal God do thus? my answer is one and the same as the Apostle saith, viz. That no flesh should glory in his presence, who of God is made to us Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification, and Redemption: And why should it be accounted such a foolish thing in the eyes of the wise

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men of this world, to see the wisdom of God dispensed through a weak Vessel? as is a free-born woman from above, a weaker Vessel than that of the man.

Now tell me, oh man of understanding, What must not the Spirit of Christ, or the same that is begotten of God in the female, as well as in the male, what must not (I say) the same Spirit of life from God speak, but be limited in the weaker Vessel, in the foolish Vessel, in the Vessel which is not esteemed, but base, contemptible and despised in the eyes of lofty man that must be laid low, who excels in that wisdom and knowledge which is not from above, but otherwise, brutish, and puffeth up the fleshly mind that's enmity to God, and is therefore to be confounded and moved backward, and slain upon the Cross, which is the Power of God that crucifieth the lusts and inordinate affections of the flesh, which thereby come to be silent before the Lord, who is that one and self-same spirit that is quick and powerful; so that not any other spirit governs or rules over the members of the body, but that which created the body, and every Member, which is to have the supreams authority and prehemineuce, as well in the female as in the male; and so he the Spirit of Truth that's to guide into all truth; he, the man, is not he to speak, viz. Christ in the male, the same in the female, where he is risen and manifest as King, Priest and Prophet, a Guide, Leader and Commander in all equitable and just things which are truly honorable.

But the woman was in the transgression against the Spirit; Flesh lusteth against the Spirit, saith the Apostle; and the Woman (that's in the transgression) is to be under obedience, and to be in silence, to learn in silence, and to ask her Husband at home; but what if she have a disorderly, drunken Husband (and not Christ the man, the true Husband, the true Lord) how can he teach her, seeing the woman is to learn of her Husband in silence, and to be under obedience (and not to usurp Authority over the man) as also saith the Law, which hath dominion over all that are under it in the transgression; but the Spirit of Grace and Truth that's poured upon Sons and daughters, teacheth us to deny the sin, and guideth from the same, and so maketh free from its condemnation, and from under the Law, to be under the Grace and Truth that is in the one Seed Christ, in the Male Christ, in the Female, the quick-

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ming spirit, the Lord from Heaven; and so who are led and guided by this, are not under the Law, which saith, the woman is not to usurp Authority over the man, as also saith the able Minister of the Mysterie of the glory and riches of Eternity, which is Christ the fulness in his Saints, their hope of life and glory; but the woman is to be under obedience, as also saith the Law; yea, but they that are led by the Spirit, are not under the Law, so are the Sons of God manifest; yet under the Grace covered; the same Grace with which the Man-Child, the holy Child Jesus was covered and filled with; the same, and no other but that which did and doth save the Saints from sin, and so from under the Law, and its condemnation; and not onely so, but also the same Grace which bringeth salvation, and appeareth to all men, it teacheth them not onely to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, but also to live soberly and righteously in this present world; and verily this Grace is in them which saves and justifieth them; and it's not of themselves, it is the gift of God.

And such are the servants of the living and true God, that have their fruits, (and possess the same) unto holiness; and not onely so, but the end of the same, which is the pure manifestation of the Eternal substance, to wit, everlasting life, pure, clean power, which is the excellent Treasure in the Earthen Vessels, as saith the holy Scripture, 2 Cor. 4.

But Oh ye Congregations of the dead! ye gathered Churches of so many Names and Heads, to you sounds my voice, saying, What have ye done? Oh! how guilty do ye appear before mine eye that's single (in the Lord's Light) of despising prophesying, and quenching the tender Spirit of glory, which resteth at this day in, and upon many Sons and daughters; and behold if ye can see how they do, and have prophesied in the Name of the Lord, and have fore-warned you of that which is justly come to pass upon you, while many of you despised and wondered, in the days of haughtiness, and its prosperity among you. But oh my soul, how hast thou been wounded in me, whilst I have travelled and mourned over you! And so you have been found despising that, and quenching that Spirit of Grace which teacheth the Saints in Light, and reproves for sin, and testifieth against the World, and its deeds, because they are evil.

And this same Spirit strived long with you, and in you, and would have arisen up in its Authority, Power and great glory from on high, had ye not preserved and exalted the Spirit of this World in it's proper place in you, above the just and long-suffering, which is but one and the same in male, and in female.

Oh! what have you done? Can any of you yet smite upon your thigh, and say so yet? if ye can, enquire, enquire ye, the Watchman's voice is the same it was, and not otherwise, viz. Return, come; yea, return and come to the tender Spirit of holiness, and of the gentleness of Christ, and his yoke of self-denial, and the daily Cross, they are the two great Ordinances which ye have left behind, and so the vail and the Darkness has covered you, but the true Israelites *have Light in their dwellings, and their habitations is in the best of the Land of the living.*

Wherefore my Spirit saith, Return, come and hearken to the Lamb's voice, and now see whether ye can follow him (as a stranger) wheresoever he goeth; that's the true Prophet raised up like unto Moses, *and obey his voice which savoureth not of this world; for so his Kingdom and servants are not. Therefore beware, lest your souls be cut off from the Land of the living, and ye perish in the outward observations, (by which the Kingdom cometh not) among the Congregations of the dead, where ye are yet seeking the living, but I as a Brother (even* Joseph) *tell you yet again, He is not there, but is arisen from the dead, from death to life, who is the quickening Spirit, the Lord from Heaven, over the Earth, over all the Land of* Ægypt, *over the Land of darkness, the same Lord, the same Spirit which hath done excellent things, is exalted in the new Heaven, and in the new Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness; and let the Virgin-Daughter of* Sion *publish the same, even from henceforth to all generations, yea and my Spirit is ready to say,* Amen.

There was one that saw a little Stone cut out of the Mountain without hands, and he well retained his sight so long until (in the Light of the living) he saw the same which was so little, wax so great, that it became an exceeding great Mountain.

Verily, the beloved City is manifest, set upon a holy Hill, it cannot be hid from them that see; the glory of God doth enlighten

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it, and the Lamb is the Light thereof, and his Light is like unto a stone most precious, clear as Chrystal.

The Fountain is opened free, come down from on high, and thou shalt see if thou dost thirst for springs of Life. To the Light submit thy mind, and cease from strife, in the same to behold the Bride, the Lamb's Wife, from the false Church.

Dan. Baker.

A Salutation to the whole Body of the Elect of God, whether gathered or scattered abroad upon the face of the Earth, and tender Greeting, with Information from the same suffering and long suffering Seed, whose Earthen Vessels are held in the Bonds of strait Captivity, under the Pope's dark and cruel Authority, in his Inquisition in the Island of Malta, for the Word of life, which is the living Testimony of Jesus, and the truth of his Innocency which they hold and stand fast to, and in the same; having already suffered more then three years in the said Confinement, to the present 12th month of the year accounted 1661. of the same I bear Record also, and affirm to the Truth, of which I am a Servant, and living Witness,

Daniel Baker.

O Yee Eternal and Blessed ones, whose dwelling is on high, in the fulness of all Beauty and Brightness, Glory and everlasting Joy, Happiness and Peace for evermore; We who are poor sufferers for the Seed of God, in the Covenant of Light, Life, and Truth, do dearly salute and imbrace you all, according to our measures, Blessing and honour and Glory be given to our Lord God for ever, of all who know him, who hath counted us worthy, and hath chosen us among his faithfull ones, to bear his name and to witness forth his truth, before the high and mighty men of the earth, and to fight the Lords battle with his spirituall weapons, to the breaking down of strong holds, high lofty looks and vain imaginations, and spirituall wickedness in high places.

The Lord did give us a prosperous journey hither, and when we came to *Legorne*, we were refreshed with friends [who were there before us,] and they did get a passage for us (and lodging,) but assoon as we heard of the Vessel, we did feel our service, So we went into the City in the living

power of the Lord, and there were many tender hearts did visit us, to their comfort, and our joy: The little time we staid there we gave some of our Books, and one Paper: so journying towards *Alexandria*, the Captain told us that *Malta* was in the way, and he must put in there a small time. But before we came there, our burthen was so heavy, that I was made to cry out (saying,) Oh we have a dreadfull cup to drink at that place! Oh how am I straitned till it be Accomplished!

And when we came there, the walls of the City were full of people; some stood on the top of the walls, as if something had troubled them: before we came there we stood upon the deck of the ship, and I looked upon them, & said in my heart, Shall yea destroy us? *If we give up to the Lord, then he is sufficient to deliver us out of their hands; but if we disobey our God, all those could not deliver us out of his hand*: So all fear of man was taken from us. The English Consul came abord the ship (as the Captain said) but we did not see him, and invited us to his House, it was the seventh or last day of the week: The next morning being moved of the Lord we went a-shore, and the Consul met us, and we gave him a paper, who sent us to his House, with his Servant; and when we came there at the present we well were entertained (like Princes) their *Neighbours* and *Kinsfolk* came in, and some *Jesuits*, and we gave them Books, they read a little, and laid them down, they were too hot; we declared our message to them in the Name of the Lord, and we gave some Books in the Street, so they were all set on work: Away went the Friers to the King (or Supreme in the Island) and he would not meddle with us, but said, we were honest women, we might go about our business, and that night we went a-bord the Ship again, the Consul was troubled, for their snare was laid, and we felt it; being moved of the Lord we went in again the next day, and the Consul having a sister in the Nunnery, desired us to go there, that she might see us, and we went to them, and gave them a book, then to the Consuls we returned again, and sitting to wait to know the mind of the Lord, what he would have us to do, he said we must give in the great Paper, and if we would go to save our life, we should lose it.

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Here followeth a Copy of some more words which they had written before the former was given forth.

A True Declaration concerning the Lord's love to us in all our Voyage: We were at Sea, betwen *London* and *Plymouth*, many Weeks, and one day we had some trials; and between *Plymouth* and *Legorn* we were 31. dayes; and we had many trials and storms within and without; but the Lord did deliver us out of all: And when we came to *Legorn*, with the rest of our friends, we went into the Town after we had product, and staid there many dayes, where we had service every day; for all sorts of people came unto us, but no man did offer to hurt us, yet we gave them Books and having got passage in a Dutch ship we sayled towards *Cyprus*, intending to goe to *Alexandria*, but the Lord had appointed something for us to do by the way, as he did make it manifest to us, as I did speak, for the Master of the ship had no business in the place; but being in company with another ship which had some business at the City of *Malta*, (in the Island of *Malta* where *Paul* suffered shipwrack) and being in the Harbour, on the first day of the Week, we being moved of the Lord, went into the Town, and the *English* Consul met us on the shore, and asked us concerning our coming, and we told him truth, and gave him some Books, and a Paper, and he told us there was an Inquisition, and he kindly entreated us to go to his house, and said all that he had was at our service while we were there. And in the fear and dread of the Lord we went, and there came many to see us, and we call'd them to repentance, and many of them were tender; but the whole City is given to Idolatry. And we went a ship-board that night; and the next day we being moved to go into the City again, dared not to flie the cross, but in obedience went, desiring the will of God to be done. And when we came to the Governor, he told us that he had a Sister in the Nunnary did desire to see us if we were free; and in the fear of God we went, and talked with them, and gave them a Book, and one of their Priests was with us (at the Nunnery) and had us into their place of Worship, and some would have us bow to the high Altar, which we did deny, and having a great burthen, we

went to the Conſul again, and were vvaiting upon the Lord what to do, that we might know.

And the Inquiſitors ſent for us, and when vve came before them, they asked our Names, and the Names of our Husbands, and the Names of our Fathers and Mothers, and how many children vve had; and they asked us, *Wherefore we came into that Countrey?* And vve told them, We were the Servants of the living God, and were moved to come and call them to repentance, and many other queſtions, and they went away, but commanded that vve ſhould be ſtaid there. And the next day they came again, and called for us, and vve came, but they vvould examine us apart, and called *Sarah*, and they asked, *Whether ſhe was a true Catholick?* She ſaid, that ſhe vvas a true Chriſtian that worſhippeth God in ſpirit and in truth; and they proffered her the Crucifix, and vvould have had her ſvvare that ſhe vvould ſpeak the truth; and ſhe ſaid, *ſhe ſhould ſpeak the truth*, but ſhe vvould not ſvvear, for Chriſt commanded her *not to ſwear*, ſaying, *Swear not at all*: And the *Engliſh* Conſul perſvvaded her vvith much entreating to ſvvear, ſaying, *None ſhould do her any harm*: But ſhe denied, and they took ſome Books from her, and vvould have had her ſwear by them, but ſhe vvould not: And they asked, *Wherefore ſhe brought the Books?* And ſhe ſaid, Becauſe we could not ſpeak their Language, and they might know vvherefore vve came; and they asked of her, *what* George Fox *vvas*, and ſhe ſaid, he vvas a Miniſter. And they asked, *wherefore ſhe came thither?* She ſaid, To do the Will of God, as ſhe vvas moved of the Lord. And they asked, *how the Lord did appear unto her?* And ſhe ſaid, by his Spirit. And they asked, *where ſhe was when the Lord appeared unto her?* and ſhe ſaid, upon the way. And they asked, *whether ſhe did ſee his Preſence, and hear his Voice?* And ſhe ſaid, ſhe did hear his Voice, and ſaw his Preſence, and they asked, *What he ſaid to her?* and ſhe ſaid, the Lord told her, ſhe muſt go over the Seas to do his Will; and then they asked, *how ſhe knew it was the Lord?* and ſhe ſaid, he bid her go, and his living preſence ſhould go vvith her, and he was faithful that had promiſed, for ſhe did feel his living preſence, and ſo they vvent away.

Two dayes after they came again, and called for me, and offered me the Crucifix, and told me *the Magiſtrate commanded me to*

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ſwear that I would ſpeak the truth. And I told them that I ſhould ſpeak the truth, for I was a Witneſs for God; but I ſhould not ſwear, for a greater than the Magiſtrate, ſaith, *Swear not at all, but let your yea be yea, and your nay be nay, for whatſoever is more, cometh of evil.* But ſaid they, *You muſt obey the Juſtice, and he commands you to ſwear.* I ſaid, *I ſhould obey Juſtice*, but if I ſhould ſwear, I ſhould do an *unjuſt thing*; for (the juſt) Chriſt ſaid, *Swear not at all.* And they asked me, *Whether I did own that Chriſt which dyed at Jeruſalem?* I anſwered, We owned the ſame Chriſt, and no other, he is the ſame yeſterday, to day and for ever.

And they asked me, *What I would do at Jeruſalem?* I ſaid I did not know that I ſhould go there, but I ſhould go to *Alexandria*; and they ſaid, *What to do?* and I ſaid, to do the Will of God; and if the Lord did open my mouth, I ſhould call them to repentance, and declare to them the day of the Lord, and direct their minds from darkneſs to Light. Then they asked me, *Whether I did tremble when I did preach?* and I told them, I did tremble when the power of the Lord was upon me. And they asked, *Whether I did ſee the Lord with my eyes?* I ſaid, God was a Spirit, and he was ſpiritually diſcerned.

That day that we were had from the *Engliſh* Conſuls to the Inquiſition, the Conſul's Wife brought us meat to eat, and as ſhe paſt by me, I was ſmote with an Arrow to the heart, and I heard a voice, ſaying, *It is finiſhed, ſhe hath obtained her purpoſe.* I did not taſte of her meat, but went aſide, and wept bitterly. The Conſul did affirm to us the night before, that there was no ſuch thing as to enſnare us) intended; but it was in us as fire, and our ſouls were heavy even unto death; for many dayes before we ſaw in a Viſion of our going there, (to priſon) and we ſaid *Pilate* would do the *Jews* a pleaſure, and waſh his hands in innocency. He required *a ſign of me if we were the Meſſengers of God*; and the Lord gave me a ſign for him, that ſtuck by him while he lived. The ſame day it was, he called me, and told me the Inquiſition had ſent for us, and they had Papers from *Rome*, and he did hope we ſhould be ſet free; which was a lye: For he knew there was a room prepared for us. And there came a man with a black Rod, and the Chancellor, and the Conſul, and had us before their *Lord Inquiſitor*, and he asked us, *Whether we had changed our minds yet?* We

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ſaid, Nay, we ſhould not change from the truth. He asked, *What new Light we talkt of?* We ſaid, no new Light, but the ſame the *Prophets* and *Apoſtles* bare teſtimony to. Then he ſaid, *How came this Light to be loſt ever ſince the primitive times?* We ſaid, it was not loſt, men had it ſtill (in them) but they did not know it, by reaſon that the night of Apoſtacy had, and hath overſpread the Nations. Then he ſaid, *If we would change our minds, and do as they would have us to do, we ſhould ſay ſo, or elſe they would uſe us as they pleaſed.* We ſaid, The Will of the Lord be done. And he aroſe up, and went his way with the Conſul, and left us there. And the man with the black Rod, and the Keeper, took us, and put us into an inner Room in the Inquiſition, which had but two little holes in it for light or air; but the glory of the Lord did ſhine round about us.

After the *Conſul* came with tears in his eyes, and ſaid he was as *ſorry as for his own fleſh; but there was ſome hopes in time*; and ſo he vvent avvay, but never had peace vvhile he lived. He would have given up the thirty pieces of ſilver again, but it would not be received; the Witneſs was riſen much in him, but ſlaviſh fear poſſeſt him. This was upon the ſixt day of the Week, and our ſtomacks were taken away from all meat.

The next ſecond day came a *Magiſtrate*, two *Fryars*, and the man with the *black Rod*, and a *Scribe*, and the *Keeper*, to the *Inquiſition*, to ſit upon Judgement, and examined us apart concerning our faith in Chriſt. The Magiſtrate would have had us to *ſwear*, and we anſwered, No; Chriſt ſaid, *Swear not at all*; and ſo ſaid *James* the Apoſtle. He asked, *if we would ſpeak truth?* We ſaid, yes. He asked, *Whether we did believe the Creed?* We ſaid, We did believe in God, and in Jeſus Chriſt, which was born of the Virgin *Mary*, and ſuffered at *Jeruſalem* under *Pilate*, and aroſe again from the dead the third day, and aſcended to his Father, and ſhal come to judgement, to judge both quick and dead. He asked, *How we did believe the Reſurrection?* We anſwered, We did believe that the juſt and the unjuſt ſhould ariſe, according to the Scriptures. He ſaid, *Do you believe in the Saints, and pray to them?* We ſaid, We did believe the Communion of Saints; but we did not pray to them, but to God onely, in the Name of Jeſus Chriſt. He asked, *Whether we did believe in the Catholick Church?* We ſaid, We did

believe

believe the true Church of Christ; but the Word *Catholick* we have not read in Scripture. He asked, *if we believed a Purgatory?* We said, No; but a Heaven and a Hell. The Fryar said, *We were commanded to pray for the dead; for those that were in Heaven had no need; and they that were in Hell there is no redemption; therefore there must be a Purgatory.* He asked, *if we believed their holy Sacrament?* We said, We never read (the Word) *Sacrament* in Scripture. The Fryar replied, *Where we did read in our Bibles* Sanctification, *it was* Sacrament *in theirs.* He said, *Their holy Sacrament was Bread and Wine, which they converted into the Flesh and Blood of Christ by the virtue of Christ.* We said, they did work Miracles then, for Christ's virtue is the same as it was when he turned Water into Wine at the Marriage in *Canaan.* He said, *If we did not eat the flesh, and drink the blood of the Son of God, we had no life in us.* We said, the Flesh and Blood of Christ is spiritual, and we do feed upon it daily; for that which is begotten of God in us, can no more live without spiritual food, than our temporal bodies can without temporal food. He said, that *we did never hear Masse.* We said, We did hear the voice of Christ, he onely had the words of eternal life, and that was sufficient for us. He said, *We were Hereticks and Heathens.* We said, they were Hereticks that lived in sin and wickedness, and such were Heathens that knew not God. He asked *about our Meetings in England?* And we told them the truth to their amazement. And they asked, *Who was the Head of our Church?* We said, Christ. And they asked, *What* George Fox *is.* And we said, He is a Minister of Christ. They asked, *Whether he sent us?* We said, No, the Lord did move us to come. The Fryar said, *We were deceived, and had not the faith, but we had all virtues.* We said, that faith was the ground from whence virtues do proceed. They said, *If we would take their holy Sacrament, we might have our liberty, or else the Pope would not leave us for millions of Gold, but we should lose our souls and our bodies too.* We said, the Lord had provided for our souls, and our bodies were freely given up to serve the Lord. They askt us, *if we did not believe Marriage was a Sacrament?* We said, it was an Ordinance of God. They ask't us, *if we did believe man could forgive sins?* We said None could forgive sins but God onely. They brought us that Scripture, *Whose sins ye remit in earth, shall be remitted in heaven.* We said, All Power was God's, and he could

could give it to whom he would (that were born of the Eternal Spirit, and guided by the same, such have power to do the Fathers Will, as I answered a Fryar also in the City of *Naples*) and they were silent, the Power greatly working. We asked them wherein we had wronged them, that we should be kept Prisoners all dayes of our lives, and said, Our innocent blood would be required at their hands.

The Fryar said, *He would take our blood upon him, and our Journey into* Turky *too*. We told him, the time would come he would find he had enough upon him without it. They said, *The Popes was Christ's Vicar, and we were of his Church, and what he did, was for the good of our souls*. We answered, The Lord had not committed the charge of our souls to the Pope, nor to them, for he had taken them into his own possession, glory was to his Name for ever. They said, *We must be obedient*. We said, We were (obedient) to the Government of Christ's Spirit. The Fryar said, *None had the true Light but the Catholicks; the Light that we had, was the Spirit of the Devil*. We said, Wo to him that calleth Jesus accursed: Can the Devil give power over sin and iniquity? then he would destroy his own Kingdom. He said, *We were laught at, and mockt at of every one*. We said, What did become of the mockers? It was no matter. He said, *We did run about to preach, and had not the true Faith*. We said, the true Faith is held in a pure Conscience void of offence towards God and man; and we had the true Faith. And he said, *There was but one Faith, either theirs or ours*; and asked us *which it was*? We said, Every one had the true Faith, that did believe in God, and in Jesus whom he had sent but they that say they do believe, and do not keep his commandments, are lyars, and the truth is not in them. He said *it was true*; but he did thirst daily for our blood, because we would not turn, and urged us much about our Faith and Sacrament, to bring us under their Law; but the Lord preserved us.

They said, *It was impossible we could live long in that hot room*. So the next Week-day they sate in Council, but oh how the swelling Sea did rage, and the proud waves did foam even unto the cloud of Heaven, and Proclamation was made at the Prison Gate, we did not know the words, but the fire of the Lord flamed against it, [K.] my life was smitten, and I was in a very great agony,

ſweat was as drops of blood, and the righteous one was laid into a Sepulcher, and a great ſtone was roll'd to the door; but the Propheſie was, that he ſhould ariſe again the third day, which was fulfilled. But the next day they came to ſit upon Judgement again, [but I ſay, in the true Judgement they ſate not, but upon it they got up unjuſtly above the righteous, and upon the ſame they ſate, a child of Wiſdom may underſtand] and they brought many Propoſitions written in a paper, but the Fryar would ſuffer the Magiſtrate to propound but few to us, for fear the Light would break forth; but they aſkt *how many friends of ours were gone forth in the Miniſtry, and into what parts.* We told them what we did know. They ſaid, *all that came where the Pope had any thing to do, ſhould never go back again.* We ſaid, the Lord was as ſufficient for us, as he was for the children in the fiery Furnace, and our truſt was in God. They ſaid, *we were but few, and had been but a little while, and they were many Countreys, and had ſtood many hundred years, and wrought many Miracles, and we had none.* We ſaid, we had thouſands at our Meetings, but none (of us) dare ſpeak a word, but as they are eternally moved of the Lord; and we had Miracles, the Blind receive their ſight, the Deaf do hear, and the Dumb do ſpeak, the Poor do receive the Goſpel, the Lame do walk, and the Dead are raiſed. He asked, *Why I lookt ſo, whether my Spirit was weak?* I ſaid, Nay, my body was weak, becauſe I eat no meat, [it was in their *Lent*] *He offered me a Licenſe to eat fleſh.* I ſaid I could not eat any thing at all. The terrors of death were ſtrongly upon me, but three nights after, the Lord ſaid unto me, about the 11*th.* hour, Ariſe, and put on your Cloathes: I ſaid, *When wilt thou come Lord?* He ſaid, Whether at midnight, or at Cock-crow, do thou watch. My Friend and I aroſe, and the Lord ſaid, Go ſtand at the Door. And we ſtood at the door in the power of the Lord, I did ſcarce know whether I was in the body, or out of the body; and about the 12*th.* hour there came many to the Priſon-Gate; We heard the Keys, and looked when they would come in: They ran to and fro till the 4*th.* hour; the Lord ſaid, he had ſmote them with blindneſs, they could not find the way. And we went to bed, there I lay night and day for 12. days together, faſting and ſweating, that my bed was wet, and grew was our affliction.

The tenth day of my fast there came *two Fryars*, the *Chamvilion*, the man with the *black Rod*, and a *Physician*, and the *Keeper*: and the *Fryar* commanded my dear Friend to go out of the room, and he came and pull'd my hand out of the bed, and said, *Is the Devil so great in you, that you cannot speak?* I said, Depart from me thou worker of iniquity, I know thee not; the Power of the Lord is upon me, and thou call'st him Devil. He took his Crucifix to strike me in the mouth; and I said, Look here! and I asked him, Whether it were that Cross which crucified *Paul* to the World, and the World unto him? And he said, *it was*. I denied him, and said, the Lord had made me a Witness for himself against all workers of iniquity. *He bid me be obedient*, and went to strike me: I said, Wilt thou strike me? He said, *he would*. I said, Thou art out of the Apostles Doctrine, they were no strikers; I deny thee to be any of them who went in the Name of the Lord. He said, *he had brought me a Physician in charity*. I said, the Lord was my Physician, and my saving-health. He said *I should be whipt, and quartered, and burnt that night in Malta, and my Mate too: wherefore did me come to teach them?* I told him I did not fear, the Lord was on our side, and he had no power but what he had received; and if he did not use it to the same end the Lord gave it him, the Lord would judge him. And they were all smitten as dead men, and went away.

And as soon as they were gone, the Lord said unto me, The last Enemy that shall be destroyed, is Death; and the Life arose over Death, and I glorified God. The Fryar went to my friend, and told her, *I called him worker of iniquity*. Did she, said *Sarah? Art thou without sin?* He said *he was*; Then she hath wronged thee. [But I say, the wise Reader may judge:] For between the eighth and ninth hour in the evening, he sent a Drum to proclaim at the Prison-Gate; We know not what it was, but the fire of the Lord consumed it. And about the fourth hour in the morning they were coming with a Drum and Guns, and the Lord said unto me, Arise out of thy Grave-Clothes: And we arose, and they came up to the Gate to devour us in a moment. But the Lord lifted up his Standard with his own Spirit (of Might) and made them to retreat, and they fled as dust before the Wind: praise and honour be given to our God for ever. I went to bed again,

and

and the Lord said unto me, Herod will seek the young childes life to destroy it yet again, and great was my affliction; so that my dear fellow and labourer in the Work of God, did look every hour when I should depart the body for many days together, and we did look every hour when we should be brought to the stake day and night, for several weeks, and *Isaac* was freely offered up. But the Lord said, he had provided a Ram in the Bush. Afterwards the Fryer came again with his Physician; I told him, that I could not take any thing, unless I was moved of the Lord. He said, *we must never come forth of that Room while we lived, and we might thank God and him it was no worse, for it was like to be worse.* We said, if we had died, we had died as innocent as ever did servants of the Lord. He said, it was well we were innocent. They did (also) look still when I would dye.

The Fryer bid my friend *take notice what torment I would be in at the houre of Death, thousands of Devils (he said) would fetch my soule to Hell.* She said, she did not fear any such thing.

And he asked *if I did not think it expedient for the Elders of the Church to pray over the sick?* I said, yea, such as were eternally moved of the Spirit of the Lord. He fell down of his knees and did howle, and wish bitter wishes upon himself if he had not the true faith; but we denied him. The Physician was in a great rage at *Sarah*, because she could not bow to him, but to God onely.

The last day of my fast I began to be a hungry, but was afraid to eat, the enemy was so strong; but the Lord said unto me, If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink, in so doing thou shalt heap coales of fire upon his head; be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. I did eat, and was refreshed, and glorified God; and in the midst of our extremity the Lord sent his holy Angels to comfort us; so that we rejoiced and magnified God; and in the time of our great trial, the Sun and Earth did mourn visibly three dayes, and the horror of death and pains of Hell was upon me: the Sun was darkned, the Moon was turned into Blood, and the Stars did fall from heaven; and there was great tribulation ten dayes, such as never was from the beginning of the world;

and then did I see the Son of man coming in the Clouds, with power and great glory, triumphing over his enemies; the Heavens were on fire, and the Elements did melt with fervent heat, and the Trumpet sounded out of *Sion*, and an Allarum was struck up in *Jerusalem*, and all the Enemies of God were called to the great day of Battle of the Lord, And I saw a great wonder in Heaven, the Woman cloathed with the Sun, and had the Moon under her feet, and a Crown of 12. Stars upon her head, and she travelled in pain ready to be delivered of a Man-child, and there was a great Dragon stood ready to devour the Man-child as soon as it was born; and there was given to the Woman two Wings of a great Eagle to carry her into the desert, where she should be nourished for a time, times, and half a time; and the Dragon cast a Flood out of his mouth, *&c.* And I saw War in Heaven, *Michael* and his Angels against the Dragon and his Angels, and the Lamb and his army did overcome them; and there was a Trumpet sounded in Heaven, and I heard a voice saying to me, **The City is divided into three parts**; and I heard another Trumpet sounding, and I looked and saw an Angel go down into a great pool of water, and I heard a voice saying unto me, **Whosoever goeth down next after the troubling of the Waters, shall be healed of whatsoever Disease he hath.** And I heard another Trumpet sounding, and I heard a voice, saying, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen, Babylon the great is fallen.** And I looked, and saw the smoke of her torment, how it did ascend; and I heard another Trumpet sounding, and I heard a voice saying, **Rejoice and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven; for he that is mighty hath magnified you, and holy is his Name; and from henceforth all generations shall call you blessed:** And I heard another trumpet sounding in Heaven, and I heard a voice saying unto me, **Behold**; and I looked, and I saw *Pharoah* and his Host pursuing the Children of *Israel*, and he and his Host were drowned in the Sea.

Dear Friends and People, whatsoever I have written, it's not because it is recorded in the Scripture, or that I have heard of such things, but in obedience to the Lord I have written the things which I did hear, see, tasted and handled of the good

Word

Word of God, to the praise of his Name for ever.

And all this time my dear Sister in Christ Jesus was in as great affliction as I (in a manner) to see my strong travel night and day; yet she was kept in the patience, and would willingly have given me up to death, that I might have been at rest; yet she would have been left in as great danger, woe and misery, as ever was any poor captive for the Lord's truth; for they did work night and day with their divinations, inchantments and temptations, thinking thereby to bring us under their power; but the Lord prevented them every way, so that great was their rage, and they came often with their Physician, and said it was in charity; I askt them whether they did keep us in that hot room to kill us, and bring us a Physician to make us alive.

The Fryar said, *the Inquisitor would lose his head if he should take us thence, and it was better to keep us there, than to kill us.*

The Room was so hot and so close, that we were fain to rise often out of our bed, and lie down at a chink of their door for air to fetch breath; and with the fire within, and the heat without, our skin was like sheeps Leather, and the hair did fall off our heads, and we did fail often: our afflictions and burthens were so great, that when it was day we wished for night; and when it was night we wished for day; we sought death, but could not find it; We desired to die, but death fled from us; We did eat our bread weeping, and mingled our drink with our tears. We did write to the Inquisitor, and laid before him our innocency, and our faithfulness, in giving our testimony for the Lord amongst them; and I told him, if it were our blood they did thirst after, they might take it any other way, as well as to smother us up in that hot room. So he sent the Fryar, and he took away our *Ink-horns*, (they had our *Bibles* before) We asked why they took away our goods? They said, *it was all theirs, and our lives too, if they would.* We asked, how we had forfeited our lives unto them; they said, *For bringing Books and Papers.* We said, if there were any thing in them that was not true, they might write against it. They said, *they did scorn to write to fools and asses that did not know true Latine.* And they told us, *the Inquisitor would have us separated, because I was weak, and I should go into a cooler room;* but *Sarah* should abide there. I took her by the arm, and said, *The Lord hath joined us together*

gether, and we be to them that ſhould part us. I ſaid, I rather chuſe to dye there with my friend, than to part from her. He was ſmitten, and went away, and came no more in five weeks, and the door was not opened in that time. Then they came again to part us; but I was ſick, and broken out from head to foot. They ſent for a Doctor, and he ſaid, *We muſt have air, or elſe we muſt dye.* So the Lord compelled them to go to the Inquiſitor, & he gave order *for the door to be ſet open ſix hours in a day*; they did not part us till ten Weeks after: But oh the dark clouds and the ſharp ſhowers the Lord did carry us through! Death it ſelf had been better than to have parted in that place. They ſaid, *we corrupted each other, and that they thought when we were parted, we would have bowed to them.* But they found we were more ſtronger afterwards than we were before; the Lord our God did fit us for every condition. They came and brought a Scourge of ſmall Hemp, and asked us, *if we would have any of it.* They ſaid, *they did whip themſelves till the blood did come.* We ſaid, that could not reach the Devil, he ſate upon the heart. They ſaid, *All the men and women of* Malta *were for us, if we would be Catholicks, for there would be none like unto us.* We ſaid, the Lord had changed us into that which changed not. They ſaid, *all their holy women did pray for us, and we ſhould be honored of all the world if we would turn.* We ſaid, we were of God, and the whole world did lye in wickedneſs; and we denied the honor of the World, and the glory too. They ſaid, *We ſhould be honored of God too, but now we were hated of all.* We ſaid, it is an evident token whoſe ſervants we are; the ſervant is not greater than the Lord, and that Scripture was fulfilled which ſaith, *All this will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worſhip me.*

Upon a firſt day of the Week, we were faſting and waiting upon the Lord till the ſecond hour (after mid-day) and the Fryars came and commanded us *in the Name of the Lord to kneel down with them to prayer.* We ſaid, we could not pray but as we were moved of the Lord. They commanded us the ſecond time. Then they kneeled down by our bed ſide, and prayed, and when they had done, they ſaid, *they had tryed our ſpirits, now they knew what ſpirit we were of.* We told told them, they could not know our ſpirit, unleſs their minds were turned to the Light of the Lord Jeſus in their Conſciences. The Engliſh Fryar was wrath, and ſhew-

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ed us his *Crucifix*, and bid us *loook there*. We ſaid, The Lord ſaieh, *Thou ſhalt not make to thy ſelf the likeneſs of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, nor in the water under the earth; thou ſhalt not bow to them nor worſhip them, but I the Lord thy God only.* He was ſo mad, he called for the irons to chain *Sarah*, becauſe ſhe ſpake ſo boldly to him: She bowed her head, and ſaid to him, *Not onely my feet, but my hands and my neck alſo for the Teſtimony of Jeſus.* His wrath was ſoon appeaſed, and he ſaid, *He would do us any good he could; he did ſee what we did was not in malice*, the power had broken him down for that preſent; they came to us often, ſaying, *If you would do but a little, you ſhould be ſet at liberty; but you will do nothing at all, but are againſt every thing.* We ſaid, We are againſt nothing that is of God, but would do any thing that might make for God's glory.

Many did think we ſhould not have been heard nor ſeen after we were in the Inquiſition. but the Lord did work wonderfully for us and his Truth: For they new built the *Inquiſition*, and there were many *Labourers* for a year and a half, and the great men came to ſee the building; and we were carried forth with great power to declare in the Name of the Lord Jeſus, not fearing the face of man; the Lord was our ſtrength. But behold they threatned us with *Irons* and *Halters*, for preaching the Light ſo boldly, and they ſaid, *None ought to preach but Prelates to a Biſhop*, (as they uſe to ſay in *England*.) Now their *Lord Inquiſitor* (ſo called) and the *Magiſtrates* were kept moderate towards us, and gave order, *we ſhould have Ink and Paper to write to England.* But we were hindered ſtill; and we do believe they would have ſet us at liberty, had it not been for the Fryars; it was they that wrought againſt us ſtill to the *Pope* and to the *Inquiſitor*; and we told them ſo. They ſought three quarters of a year to part us, before they could bring it to paſs; and when they did part us, they prepared a bed for *Sarah*, and their own *Catholicks* lay upon the boards, that had not beds of their own. When we were parted; the Lord would not ſuffer me to keep any money, I knew not the mind of God in it. Their Fryars came and ſaid, *We ſhould never ſee one anothers faces again, but the Inquiſitor ſhould ſend me my food.* But the Lord would not ſuffer him to ſend it. *Sarah* did ſend me ſuch as ſhe could get neare three Weeks: then the Fryar came and askt me, *what I did want?* I ſaid, one towaſh my

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Linnen, and something hot to eat; I was weak. He sent to *Sarah* to know *if she would do it for me.* She said she would. And by that means we did hear of each other every day. The Fryar said, *You may free your self of misery when you will; you may make your self a Catholick, and have your freedom to go where you will.* I told him, I might make my self a Catholick, and have a name that I did live, when I was dead, and said, he had Catholicks enough already; he should bring some of them to the Light in their Consciences, that they might stand in awe, and sin not. He said, *He would lose one of his fingers if we would be Catholicks.* I said, it was *Babylon* that was built with *blood*, Sion was redeemed through Judgement. They would have had me to a Picture set at my beds head, for a representation. I askt them if they did think I did lack a Calf to worship? And whether they did not walk by the Rule of Scripture? The Fryar said, *They did, but they had traditions too.* I said, if their traditions did derogate or discent from the fundamentals of Christ's Doctrine, the Prophets and Apostles, I denied them in the Name of the Lord. He said, *they did not.* I askt him where they had their Rule to burn them that could not join with them for Conscience? He said, *St. Paul d'd worse, he gave them to the Devil, and that they did judge all damned that were not of their Faith.* And he askt whether we did judge them so? *I* said, No, We had otherwise learned Christ. *I* askt him why they did bind that which the Lord did not bind? and set tyes, chains and limits, where the Lord did not? as in *meats* and *drinks*, or in respect of *dayes* or *times*, which the Apostle called *beggarly Elements*, and *rudiments of the world*, and *forbidding to marry*, (a Doctrine of Devils said *I.*) He could not tell what to say, but told me, *That Saint Peter was the Pope of* Rome, *and did build an Altar there; and the Pope was his Successor, and he could do what he would.* *I* denied that, and said, We never read any such thing in Scripture; for *Peter* Christ's Apostle had no money to build Altars, he himself did offer Sacrifice upon the Altars made without hands. And he said, *We were but a few, and risen up but late, and they were many, and had stood fourteen hundred years; and God was a liar if they had not the true faith; for he had confirmed it to them by a thousand miracles.* *I* said, the few number, and the little Flock is Christ's Flock. He askt if we were then all the World, said he. *I* said, our faith was

was from the beginning. *Abel* was of our Church, and *the world by wisdom did not know God*. He went to *Sarah* with the same temptation, and she told him also, that *Abel* was of our Church. He said *Abel was a Catholick*, and Cain and Judas *were so*. She said, Then the Devil was a *Catholick*, and she would not be one. He threatned her, and told her *how many they were*.

She said, *Daniel* was but *one*, and if there were *no more* but *she* her self, she would not turn; but took her fingers, and shewed them, if they would tear her joint meal, she did believe the Lord would enable her to endure it for the Truth.

So they went from one to another thinking to entangle us in our talk; but we were guided by one Spirit, and spake one and the same thing in effect; so that they had not a jot nor tittle against us, but for righteousness sake: Our God did keep us by his own Power and Holiness out of their hands; honor and praises be given to his powerful Name for ever

He (the said Fryar) came to me another time like a Bear robbed of her Whelps, and told me, *if I would be a Catholick, I should say so; otherwise they would use me badly, and I should never see the face of* Sarah *again, but should dye by my self, and a thousand Devils should carry my soul to Hell*. I asked him if he were the Messenger of God to me. He said he was. I said, What is my sin? or wherein have I provoked the Lord, that he doth send me such a strait Message? He said, *Because I would not be a Catholick*. I said, I deny thee and thy Message too, and the Spirit which spake in thee; the Lord never spake it. He said, that *he would lay me in a whole Pile of Chains, where I should see neither Sun nor Moon*. I said, he could not separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus, lay me where he would. He said, *He would give me to the Devil*. I said, I did not fear all the Devils in Hell, the Lord was my Keeper; Though he had the Inquisition, with all the Countreys round about, on his side, and was alone by my self, I did not fear them; if there were thousands more, the Lord was on my right hand, and the worst they could do, was but to kill the body, they could not touch my life no more than the Devil could *Job's*. He said, that *I should never go out of that Room alive*. I said, the Lord was sufficient to deliver me: But whether he would or would not, I would not forsake a living Fountain to drink at a broken Ci-

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Kern: And they had no Law to keep us there, but such a Law as *Ahab* had for *Naboth's* Vineyard. He curst himself, and call'd upon his gods and went forth, and as he was making fast the door, he put in his hand at the hole of the door, and said, *Abide there Member of the Devil.* I said, The Devil's Members did the Devil's Work: the Woes and Plagues of the Lord would be upon them for it. He went and told the Inquisitor of it, and he laught at him: I saw it, and felcot in that which is Eternal. I was moved out of the Room before he came again, and when he came, he brought one of the Inquisitors men with him, and two very good Hens, and said, *the Lord Inquisitor has sent them in love to me.* I said, his love I did receive, but I could not take his Hens, for it was not the practice of the servants of the Lord to be chargeable to any while they have of their own. He said, *We must not count any thing our own, for in the primitive times they did sell their possessions, and laid them down at the Apostles feet.* He said, *We should not want any thing if they did spend a thousand Crowns.* I believe he would have had us lay down our money at his feet. He said, *I was proud, because I would not take the Inquisitors Hens when he sent them me in Charity.* I asked whether he kept me in Prison, and sent me his Charity. *He said, it was for the good of our souls he kept us in prison.* I told him, Our souls were out of the Inquisitors reach or his either; he told me before, *if we had not been going to preach, we might have gone where we would.* I askt him, What should our souls have done then? and why their love should extend more to us, than to their own family? They could not charge us with sin, and they did commit all manner of sin; they might put them into the inquisition and bid turn. *He* said again *We had not the true Faith*, and shew'd me his Crucifix, and askt me *if I thought he did worship that?* I asked him what he did do with it? he said *it was a Representation.* I said it did not represent Christ, for he was the express image of his Father's glory, which is Light and Life. I said, if he could put any life in any of his images, he might bring them to me. And I askt him what *Representation Daniel* had in the *Lyons Den*, or *Jonah* in the *Whales belly*, they cryed unto the Lord, and he deliver'd them. *He* said, *I talk like a mad woman, I talk so much against their Idols.* He was in a rage, and said, *He would give me to the Devil.* I bid him give his own, I am the Lords. He stood up, and

said *He would do by me as the Apostles did by* Ananias *and* Sapphira. He stood up and opened his mouth, and I stood up to him and denied him in the Name of the Lord, the living God, and said he had no power over me. And away he went to *Sarah* with the Hens, and told her *that I was sick, and the Lord Inquisitor had sent two Hens, and I would be glad to eat a piece of one if she should dress one of them presently, and the other to morrow.* [Mark, this Deceiver! this Lyar!] But she hearing of the counsel of the Lord, answered him accordingly as did, and he carried them away again. We did not dare to take them, the Lord did forbid us. He said, *You would fain be burned, because you would make the World believe you did love God so well as to suffer in that kind.* I said, I did not desire to be burnt, but if the Lord did call me to it, I did believe he would give me power to undergo it for his truth, and if every hair of my head was a body, I could offer them up all for the Testimony of Jesus. He came twice *to know whether I had not been inspired of the Holy Ghost to be a Catholick since I came into the Inquisition.* I said, No. he said, *we were*, he said, *We called the Spirit of the Holy Ghost the Spirit of the Devil.* We said, the Spirit of the Holy Ghost in us will resist the Devil. We told him the inspiration of the Holy Ghost was never wrought in the Will of man, nor in man's time, but in the Will of God, and in God's time. He asked, *How we did know a clean from an unclean Spirit?* We said, an unclean spirit did burden the Seed of God, and dam up the Springs of Life, and a clean spirit would open the Springs of Life, and refresh the Seed, it was a Riddle to him, but he said it was true. He would assent to pure truth sometimes

We asked him Whether every man and woman did not stand guilty before God of all the sins they ever committed before Regeneration? He said, *Yea.* And he did confess all their Learning and Languages (in their places) was but to serve the Lord. We told him, all their Praying, Preaching and Tooding was no more accepted than *Cain's* Sacrifice, unless they were moved of the Eternal Spirit of the Lord. We asked him, if he that was in them, was greater than he that was in us, and why they had not overcome us all that time? We were very sensible of their workings day and night by us. He said, *Because we resisted still.* We asked him for our Bibles? He said, *We should never see them again, they were false.*

We said, if they were conjuring Books, they had no warra
from the Lord to take them from us.

They always came two Fryars at a time, and they would fal
down and howl, and wish bitter wishes upon themselves if the
were not in the truth. We would deny them, and preach trut
to them, the Light of the Lord Jesus in the Consciences of ever
one, to lead them to a pure life, and did ask them where the pur
and holy life was, and what all of them did do, that the peop
did live in sin and all manner of wickedness? And whether wor
and forms would serve without life and power? He was as blo
dy a fiery Serpent, as ever was born of a Woman, and did strike
hard at our lives, & would hold up his hand often to strike us, bu
had never the power, he would quickly be cut down, that he woul
say, *we were good women, and he would do us any good.* He was com
pell'd to work for us sometimes, and would say it was for God
sake, and would have us thank him for it. We would tell him
those that did any thing for God, did not look for a reward fro
man. He said, *We were the worst of all creatures, and we should be us
worse than any, the Turks, Arminians, Protestants and Lutherans
should be used better than we.* We said, the pure Life was ever coun
ted the worst, and we must suffer; we were the Lords, and coul
trust him; let him do what he would with us, we did not fear an
evil tydings, we were settled and grounded in the truth, and th
more they did persecute us, the more stronger we did grow; W
were bold and valiant for God's Truth, that whatsoever we di
suffer, we could not fear. We were separated two years; I ha
neither fire nor candle in that time above two hours, none di
bring me any, nor I had not freedom to call for any.

The Fryars went to *Sarah*, and told her, *if she would, she shoul
go forth of the Prison, and say nothing, nor do nothing.* She said, sh
would upon that account. He said, they would come in the
morning, and so they did, but the Lord saw their deceit, and fore
warned *Sarah*, and bid her mind *Esau, who sold his Birth right fo
a morsel of meat; and Judas, that betrayed his Master for thirty pie
ces of Silver.* That when they came, she (was strengthned again
them, and) said, she stood in the Counsel of God, and could tak
up nothing in her own will; they had not power to have he
forth. They said the Inquisitor said, if we did want Linnen, Woo
len,

len, Stockins, Shooes or Money, vve should have it.

But there was a poor *English* man heard that *Sarah* was in a room with a Windovv next the Street, it vvas high; he got up, and spake a few vvords to her; and they came violently & hall'd him down, and cast him into prison upon life and death: And the Fryars came to know of us vvhether he had brought any Letters. We said no; I did not see him. They said, they did think he would be hang'd for it. He was one that they had taken from the *Turks*, and made a Catholick of him. *Sarah* wrote a few lines to me of it, and said she did think the English Fryars were the chief actors of it, (we had a private way to send to each other.) I vvrote to her again, and after my Salutation, I said, Whereas she said the Fryars vvere the chief actors, she might be sure of that, for they did hasten to fill up their measures; but I believe the Lord will preserve the poor man for his love; I am made to seek the Lord for him with tears: And I desired she would send him something once a day, if the Keeper vvould carry it, and I told her of the glorious manifestations of God to my soul, for her comfort, so that I was ravished vvith love, and my Beloved was the chiefest of ten thousands; and how I did not fear the face of any man, though I did feel their arrows, for my Physician is nigh me, and how I was vvaiting upon the Lord, and saw our safe return into *England*, and I was talking with *G.F.* to my great refreshment: The Name of *G.F.* did prick them to the heart. I said, it vvas much they did not tempt us with money. I bid her take heed, the Light vvould discover it, and many more things, let it come under what cover it vvould.

And this Paper came to the Fryar's hands, by vvhat means vve could never tell, but as the Light did show us; the Lord vvould have it so; it smote the Fryar, that he vvas tormented many days, and he translated it into *Italian*, and laid it before their Lord Inquisitor, and got the Inquisitor's Lievtenant, and came to me with both the Papers in his hand, and aske me *if I could read it?* I said, *Yes*, I writ it. *O! did you indeed!* (said he) And *what is it you say of me here?* That which is truth said I. Then he said, *Where is the Paper* Sarah *sent? bring it, or else I will search the Trunk, and every where else.* I bid him search where he vvould. He said, *I must tell what man it was that brought me the Ink, or else I should be tied*

with

with Chains presently. I told him I had done nothing but what was just and right in the sight of God, and what I did suffer would be for Truth's sake; and I did not care, I would not meddle nor make with the poor Workmen. He said, *For God's sake tell me what* Sarah *did write?* I told him a few words, and said it was truth. Said he, *You say it is much we do not tempt you with money.* And in few hours they came and tempted us with money often. So the Lieutenant took my ink and threw it away: and they were smitten as if they would have fallen to the ground: and went their way. I saw them no more in three Weeks; but the poor man was set free the next morning.

They went to *Sarah*, and told her *that I had honestly confest all, and that she was best to confess too, and threatned her with a Halter, and to take away a Bed and Trunk, and her Money, to have half of it for me.* She answered, she might not send to me any more. She asked him, Whether he was a Minister of Christ, or a Magistrate? if he were a Magistrate, he might take her money, but she would not give it him: And they that were with him, said, *No, he should not meddle with any thing.* He was a bitter wicked man. He told her, *She was possest.* She answered and said, she was with the power of an endless life.

The Lord was not wanting to us at any time, for Power nor Words to stop the mouths of gain-sayers of his Truth neither in Revelations nor Visions; Praises be to his Name for ever. He kept us in our weakest condition, bold for his Truth, declaring against all sin and wickedness, so that many were convinced, but did not dare to own it, for fear of *Faggot* and *Fire*. There were none that had any thing to say against what we spake, but the Fryers, but would have us to join with them. There were none did come into the Inquisition but the judgements of the Lord would be upon them so that they would cry and foam and send for a Physitian many of them. The unclean spirits would cry out as much as ever they did against Jesus, and would gnash with their teeth when we were at prayer; there was a Fryer and other great men, the Fryer would run as if he had been at his Wits end, and call to the Keeper, and he would run for the *English* Fryer, and he would go the Inquisitor for counsel, and sometime they would send them word they should have a remedy; I should be sent to

Rome,

Room, and sometimes the Fryers would come, but had not power to say any thing to me of it; The Lord did say to us, Lift up your Voice like the noise of a Trumpet, and sound forth my Truth like the shout of a King. There was one that life was arisen in him but they were upon him as Eagles til they had destroy'd him; he did undergo terrible Judgements all the time he was in the *Inquisition*.

Our money served us a year and seven Weeks; and when it was almost gone, the Fryars brought the *Inquisitor's Chamberlain* to buy our Hats. We said, we came not there to sel our clothes, nor any thing we had. Then the Fryar did commend us for that, and told us *we might have kept our money to serve us otherwise*. We said, No, we could not keep any money, and be chargeable to any; We could trust God. He said, *He did see we could*; but *they* should have maintained us while they kept us Prisoners.

And then the Lord did take away our stomacks, we did eat but little for three or four Weeks; and then the Lord called us to fasting for eleven dayes together, but it was so little, that the Fryars came and said, that *it was impossible that Creatures could live with so little meat*, as they did see we did for so long time together; and asked *what we would do?* And said their *Lord Inquisitor said, We might have any thing we would*. We said, We must wait to know the mind of God, what he would have us to do. We did not fast in our own Wills but in obedience to the Lord. They were much troubled, and sent us meat, and said *the English Consul sent it*. We could not take any thing till the Lord's time was come. We were weak, so that *Sarah* did dress her head as she would lye in her Grave, (poor Lamb) I lay looking for the Lord to put an end to the sad trial which way it seemed good in his sight. Then I heard a voice, saying, *We shall not dye*. I believed the Lord, and his glory did appear much in our fast; he was very gracious to us, and did refresh us with his living presence continually, and we did behold his beauty to our great joy and comfort, and he was large to us in his promises, so that we were kept quiet and still, (the sting of Death being taken away) our souls, hearts and minds were at peace with the Lord, so that they could not tell whether we were dead or alive, but as they did call to us once a day, till the time the Lord had appointed we should eat; and they were made to

bring

bring *many good things*, and laid them down by us; so that Scripture we witnessed fulfilled, *Our Enemies treated us kindly in a strange Land, said I.* But we were afraid to eat, and cryed to the Lord, and said, We had rather dye, than eat any thing that is polluted and unclean. The Lord said unto me, *Thou mayest as freely eat, as if thou hadst wrought for it with thy hands; I will sanctifie it to thee* through the Cross. And he said to *Sarah, Thou shalt eat the fruit of thy hands, and be blessed.* We did eat and were refreshed, to the praise and glory of our God for ever. We did eat but little in two Months, and they did bring us what ever we did speak for, for 8. or 10. dayes; and afterward we were so straitned for want of food, it did us more hurt than our Fast. Yet the Lord did work as great a Miracle by our preservation, as he did by raising *Lazarus* out of the Grave. The Fryars did say, *the Lord did keep us alive by his mighty power, because we should be Catholicks.* We said, the Lord would make it manifest to us then; they should know the Lord had another end in it one day.

But still they said, *There was no Redemption for us.* We said, with the Lord there was mercy and plenteous Redemption. We bid them, take heed ye be not found fighters against God. They said, *We were foolish women.* We said we were the Lord's fools, and the Lord's Fools were right dear, and precious in his sight, and wo to them that do offend them. He said, *they were the Lord's fools,* and shewed us their deceitful Gowns, and their shaven Crowns, and said, *they did wear it for God's sake, to be laught at of the world.* We said, they did not wear it for God's sake, unless they were moved of the holy Spirit of God to wear it. He said, *it was no matter, they did wear it because of their Superiors.* [mark, and before it was for God's sake, as he said] He thought to bring us under him for our food, and did make us suffer a while, though the Inquisitor and the Magistrates had taken a course we should want for nothing. But the Lord did torment him and all the rest, till they did bring us such things as were fitting. Then he did work all that he could to send me to *Rome*, and was coming two or three times (for what I know) to fetch me forth, but the Lord would not suffer them; and when they saw they could not prevaile that way, they said we all could go both, but the Fryar should go first, because he was not well; he got leave to go, he was so weary

of coming to us, that he did beseech the Lord Inquisitor he might come no more to us. He told *Sarah I was a Witch*, and *that I knew what was done at London*, and he would come to me no more, he said, Because when he did tell me a company of lyes, I said, *I had a witness for God in me, which was faithful and true, and I did believe God's witness.*

The Diviners did wax mad, and did run as at their wits end, from Mountain to Hill, and from Hill to Mountain, to cover them: They ran to the Inquisitor, and writ to the Pope, and went to him, their King did not hide them at all; some of them did gnash with their teeth, and even gnaw their tongues for pain: Yet the rest would not repent of their blasphemy, sorcery, nor inchantments, but do post on to fill up their measures; Oh! the Lord reward them according to their works. A little before the Fryar went to *Rome*, he came to the *Inquisition* Chamber with a Scribe, to write concerning us, to carry it with him; *I* saw him, as God would have it; the Lord said, *There is thy deadly foe.* They were writing part of three dayes; and when they had ended it, the Lord would not let me eat till the Scribe did come where I was, that I might pronounce woe against it, and defie it, which I did do in the Name of the Lord, and it did wither with all the rest: After it was gone, the *English Consul* came to us with a Scribe, and he brought us a doller from a Master of a Ship that came from *Plymouth*; I told him, I did receive my Countrey man's Love, but could not receive his Money. He askt me, *What I would do if I would take no money?* I said, the Lord was my portion, and I could not lack any good thing. I said to him, We were in thy House near 15. Weeks, didst thou see any cause of Death or Bonds in us? He said, *No.* I askt him, how he would dispence with his Conscience for telling us, *He would have us before the Inquisitor*, and thou didst know that Room was provided for us; and had not we been kept alive by the mighty Power of God, we might have been dead long since. He said, *How could I help it!* I said, We are the Servants of the living God, and were brought here by permission, and in the Spirit of Meekness gave in our Testimony for the Lord in faithfulness, and told you the truth as it is in Jesus, and called you all to repentance, and fore-warned you in love to your souls, of the evil the Lord is bringing upon you, if you do not

repent. He ſaid, *However it be, it will go well with you.* [Mark that.] I told him, he required a ſign of me when we were at his houſe, if we were the ſervants of the Lord God; I gave him a ſign from the living God, and my friend gave him another from the Lord, to his ſhame and deſtruction for ever. I askt him, Whether it were not true we ſpake to him, he ſaid it was, *but how ſhould he help it?* I ſaid, Thou art a condemned perſon, and ſtands guilty before God; yet nevertheleſs repent, if thou canſt find a place. He ſmil'd upon the Scribe in deceit, but his lips did quiver, and his belly trembled, and he could ſcarce ſtand upon his legs. He was as proper a man as moſt was in the City, and full, and in his prime age. O! he was conſumed as a Snail in a ſhell, which was a ſufficient ſign for the whole City, if their hearts were not harder than Adamants. He ſaid, *How ſhould he help it?* He might have helpt it, but he was as willing to prove us, as any of them all. He was ſworn upon his Oath to protect the *Engliſh*; and their Ruler bid him let us go about our buſineſs, and ſaid, *We were honeſt women*; and then he might have let us go before we were under the black Rod.

Then he went to *Sarah* with the Doller; ſhe told him ſhe could not take the Money; but if he had a Letter for us, ſhe ſhould be free to receive that. He ſaid, *he had not any.* He askt her *what ſhe did want?* She ſaid, the Lord was her Shepherd, ſhe could not want any good thing; but ſhe did long for her Freedom. He ſaid, *That you may have in time.* He told us, *we ſhould have ink and paper to write.* But when he was gone, they would not let us. The next time we heard of him, he was dead; We could have rejoiced if he had dyed for righteouſneſs ſake; for the Lord delighteth not in the death of a ſinner.

The Fryar was gone to *Rome*, and they ſaid, *he muſt ſtay there till we come.* There was great working to ſend us there, but the Lord did prevent them, that they could not ſend us there. Then the Lord did work to bring us together again after ſo long time we had been parted. There were five doors between us with Locks and Bolts, but the Keeper had not power to make them faſt, but as *Sarah* could undo them to come where I could ſee her, but could not ſpeak to her; for there were them that did watch us night and day; yet ſhe being moved of the Lord, did come to

my

my door by night, she must come by the Fryars door, he and the Doctor of Law were together, and they did set a trap to take her in, and many did watch about the Prison, and would complain. Then she was lockt up again; but they had no peace in that, till the doors were open again; then we did sit in the sight of each other, to wait upon the Lord, so that our voices were heard far; the Magistrates would hear and bow to it sometime; then the complainers were weary, and did work to have us brought together; and we did wait and pray, and the Magistrates would come in and look upon us many times, but would say nothing to us: There were of divers Nations brought into the Inquisition Prisoners, and the Fryars, and the rest that were great, would go in their way to make Christians of them; and we were made to stand up against them and their ways, and deny them in the Name of the Lord, and declare the truth to the simple-hearted continually, if we did suffer death for it; We could not endure to hear the Name of the Lord blasphemed, nor his pure Way of Truth perverted, nor the ignorant deceived. They did write all they understood of what we spake, and sent it to the Court-Chamber before the Inquisitor and Magistrates; but the Lord did blast it with the Mildews of his wrathful indignation, and burnt it up with the brightness of his Son, and we rejoiced in our God; but still our burdens continued very heavy, and our righteous souls were vexed with the filthy Conversation of the Wicked, and the pure Seed of God was prest from day to day, that our spirits did mourn, and our hearts were grieved because of the hardness of their hearts, and their Rebellion against their Maker, who was so gracious to them, to suffer them so long in all their abominations, and waited to be gracious to them, and knock at the Door of their hearts, calling for *Justice*, *Mercy* and *Humility*; but behold *Oppression*, *Cruelty*, and *Self-Exaltation*, notwithstanding the Lord did strive so much with them, and sent so many undeniable truths, and infallible testimonies of the coming of his Son to Judgement, and so clear a manifestation of the way to eternal Salvation, given forth of his own mouth, by his eternal Spirit, and having us for an example who were kept by his Power and Holiness; they had not a jot nor tittle against us, but for righteousness sake, though they had winnowed and fanned us so long:

Glory, honor and praises be given to our God for ever. O they would not let us know of any *English* Ship that came into the Harbour, as near as they could, but the Lord would make it manifest to us; We had a great working and striving in our bodies, but we knew not what it meant; the arrows of the Wicked did flye, so that my soul was plunged and overwhelmed from head to feet, and the terrors of the unrighteous had taken hold of us, and the flames of Hell compassed us about; then the Lord appeared unto me in a dream, and said, *There were two English Friends in the City which did plead for our liberty in our behalf, and he had taken all fear away from them, and made them bold.* And in a little while after the Magistrates sent for us forth, and askt us, *whether we were sick*, or *whether we did want any thing*: and were very tender to us, and said *we should write to England*, and bid the Scribe *give us Ink and Paper*; he said he would; but he was so wicked he did not. They did not tell us of any *English* that were there; but there was one *Francis Steward* of *London*, a Captain of a Ship, and a Fryar of *Ireland*, which came to the City together (for what we know) and they did take great pains for us, and went to their Ruler, and the Inquisitor, and to several Magistrates and Fryars, and the new English Consul with them, and wrought much amongst them that all were willing to let us go, save the Inquisitor, they said, and he said, *He could not free us without an Order from the Pope.* But we had many heavy Enemies besides, which would not be seen; but they obtained the favour to come and speak with us, which was a great thing in such a place.

They sent for us to the Court-Chamber, and the *English* Consul askt us, *if we were willing to go back to* England? We said, if it were the Will of God we might. The Captain spake to us with tears in his eyes, and told us what they had done for us, but could not prevail; It is this Inquisitor (said he) the rest were made free; you have preached amongst these people he said. We told him we were called upon the Testimony of our Conscience, and the truth that we have witnessed forth among them, we should stand to maintain with our blood. He said, *if they could get us off, he would freely give us our passage, and provide for us*, and the Vessel was his own. We told him, his love was as well accepted of the Lord, as if he did carry us. He offered us money; he saw the Lord would

not ſuffer us to take any. He took our Names. We told them they took us out of our way, and put us into the Inquiſition, and bid us change our minds; and we could not, the Lord had changed us into that which changed not, if they would burn us to aſhes, or chop us as Herbs to the Pot. The Fryar ſaid, *We did not work*; which was falſe; we had Work of our own, and did work as we were able. We told him, our Work and Maintenance was in *England*. And they ſaid, *it was true*. He ſaid, *We would not accept of the Inquiſitors Dyet*. We did not know who did prepare for us, we did receive our meat as we had freedom in the Lord. Then he ſaid, *We had ſuffered long enough, and too long, but we ſhould have our freedoms in few days, and that they would ſend to the Pope for an Order*. And there were many Engliſh ſhips that way; but the Captain ſaw it was a very hard thing; ſo that it grieved him to the heart: He prayed God to comfort us, and he went away; and we do beſeech God to bleſs and preſerve him unto everlaſting life, and never to let him nor his go without a bleſſing from him, for his love; he did venture himſelf exceedingly in that place. But after he was gone, they aroſe up againſt us with one accord; the Inquiſitor came up into a Tower, and lookt down upon us as if he would have eaten us, and they did try us for our lives again, and did ſhut up our doors many Weeks; we could not tell for what; at length the Inquiſitor came into the Tower again, and *Sarah* was moved to call to him, to have the door opened for us to go down into the Court to waſh our clothes. Then he gave command for the door to be opened once a Week; and in a little while 'twas open every day. But great was our affliction indeed; and ſhe told him, if we were the Popes Priſoners, we would appeal to the Pope, and he ſhould ſend us to him. But them in the priſon with us, eſpecially the Fryar, were mortal Enemies to us, but yet they would have fed us with the choiceſt of their meat, and would gladly give us whole Bottles of Wine, if we would receive it, and were greatly troubled becauſe we did refuſe to eat and drink with them, and did perſecute us exceedingly; but the Lord did viſit them with his dreadful Judgements, the Fryar was tormented night and day, his body did periſh, the Doctors and Chyrurgions did follow him a long time.

And

And there were two or three *English* Ships there, came in harbour, and *Sarah* saw the coming of them in a Vision of t night, and there was great pleading for us, that we saw; but heard a Voice, saying, *We could not go now.* So we were made w ling to wait the Lords time.

Then they sent for us forth when the Ships were gone, and as us *if we would be Catholicks*: And we said, we were true Christ ans, and had received the Spirit of Christ, and he that had not t Spirit of Christ, was none of his. The *English* Consul told us the Ships, and said, *they would not let us go unleſs we would be Cath licks; and that we muſt ſuffer more imprisonment yet*; and said, *he w what he could for us.* One of the Magistrates shewed us the Cros We told them, and said, We did take up the Cros of Christ da ly, which is the great Power of God to crucifie sin and iniquity So we told them that one of their *Fathers* did promise us our li berty. We did think that Fryar was too tender-hearted to sta among them; he did take a great deal of pains for us (the Cap tain said) we told him, he would never have cause to repent it the blessing of God would be upon him for any thing he shoul do for us; for we were the Servants of the living God, and h promised us our freedoms in a little time.

This following I received from them in other Papers to Friends. D. B.

O *Dearly beloved Friends, Fathers and Elders, and Pillars of God Spiritual Houſe, and Brethren and Sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ, in the measure of Love and Life of our God do we salute you all, and do embrace you in that which is Eternal, and we do greatly re joice and glorifie the Name of our Heavenly Father, that he hath count ed us worthy to be partakers of the death and sufferings of his bleſſed Son, with you, though we be the leaſt of Gods Flock, yet we are of the true Fold, whereof Christ Jesus is Shepherd; and he hath had as tender a care over us, as he hath had of any of his Lambs which he hath called forth in this the day of his Power, and hath carryed us through, and over as great afflictions as moſt of our Brethren and sufferers for his*

Name

Name, both in mockings, scoffings, scornings, reproaches, stripes, contradictions, perils at Land, and perils at Sea, fiery tryals, cruel threatnings, grief of heart, sorrow of soul, heats and colds, fastings and watchings, fears within, and frightings without, terrible temptations and persecutions, and dreadful imprisonments and buffetings of Satan; yet in all these our tryals the Lord was very gracious unto us, and not absent himself from us, neither suffered his faithfulness to fail us, but did bear us up, and keep us from fainting in the midst of our extremity; we had not another to make our moan to, but the Lord alone, neither could we expect a drop of mercy, favour or refreshment, but what he did distil from his living Presence, and work by his own strength; for we sate one in one room, and the other in another, near a year, as Owls in Deserts, and as people forsaken in solitary places; then did we enjoy the presence of the Lord, and did behold the brightness of his Glory, and we did see you our dear Friends, in the Light of Jesus, and did behold your order, and stedfastness of your Faith and Love to all Saints, and were refreshed in all the faithful hearted, and felt the issues of Love and Life which did stream from the hearts of those that were wholly joined to the Fountain, and were made sensible of the benefit of your prayers.

O the sorrows, the mournings, the tears! but those that sow in tears, shall reap in joy. A true sorrow begets a true joy; and a true Crosse, a true Crown: For when our sorrows did abound, the Love of God did abound much more; the deeper the sorrows, the greater the joys; the greater the Cross, the weightier the Crown.

Dear Friends and Brethren, marvel not that Israel is not gathered, our Judgement remains with the Lord, and so do our Labours, for it was not for want of travel, nor pain, nor love to their souls; for we could have been contented to have fed upon the Grass on the ground, so we might have had our freedom amongst them: For had it not been for the great opposition, they would have followed after us as Chickens after a Hen, both great and small: But oh the swelling seas, the raging and foaming Waves, Stormy Winds and Floods, and deep Waters, and high Mountains and Hills, hard Rocks, rough ways, and crooked paths, tall Cedars, strong Oaks, fruitless Trees, and corrupted ones, that cumber the ground, and hinder the righteous Seed to be sown, and the noble Plants from being planted: Oh! they shut up the Kingdom against the simple-hearted, and hide the key of knowledge from the innocent ones, and will not enter into the Kingdom themselves, nor suffer them that would

would enter, but ſtir up the Magiſtrates to form carnal Weapons, think-
ing to prevent the Lord of taking to him his Inheritance, and to diſpoſ-
ſeſs his Son who is heir of all, that he might not have a dwelling-plac
amongſt them, nor a habitation nigh them; becauſe that his Light wi
diſcover their darkneſs, and his brightneſs will burn up all their abomi-
nations, and marr their beauty, and ſtain their glory, their pomp an
their pride, that it may periſh as the untimely Figs, and fall as the Flow-
er of the Field, and wither as the Graſſe upon the houſe-top. Oh th
Belly of Hell, the Jaws of Satan, the whole Myſterie of iniquity is a
the height, and all manner of abominations that make deſolate, ſtand
where it ought not, and is upholden by a Law, That upon pain of
death none muſt ſpeak againſt it, nor walk contrary to it. But praiſes t
our God, he carryed us forth to declare againſt it daily. Oh the blind
Guides, the ſeducing ſpirits that do cauſe the people to err, and compel
them to worſhip the Beaſt and his Image, and to have his mark in their
fore-heads, and in their hands, and to bow to Pictures and painted Walls,
and to worſhip the things of their own hands, and to fall down to that
which their own fingers have fashioned, and will not ſuffer them to look
towards Sion upon pain of death, nor to walk towards Jeruſalem upon
pain of Faggot and Fire, but muſt abide in Babel, and believe whatſoe-
ver they ſpeak or do, to be truth. But oh the wayes, the worſhips, the
faſhions, forms, cuſtoms, traditions obſervations and imaginations which
they have drawn in by their dark Divinations, to keep the poor people in
blindneſs and ignorance, ſo that they periſh for want of knowledge, and
are corrupted, becauſe the way of truth is not made known among them;
they are all in the many wayes, out of the one true and living way, and
their ways be ſo many and ſo monſtrous, that they are unrehearſible; but
the Lord our God hath kindled a fire in the midſt of them, that will con-
ſume all forms, faſhions, cuſtoms and traditions of men, and will burn
up the bryars, thorns and tares, ſtubble and fruitleſs Trees, and corrup-
ted ones, and will blaſt all the fruits, works and labours of wicked and
ungodly men, with the Mill-dews of his wrathful indignation, and will
ſcatter all his Enemies with the Whirl-winds of his diſpleaſure. They
do not know the Scriptures. Their Bibles would grieve any honeſt heart
to behold them, becauſe of the corruption: They ſaid, our Bibles were
falſe: I asked wherein? The Eryar ſaid, Maccabees was not in them.
I ſaid, if any were taken from them, yet the reſt might be pure; but if
any were added to them, then they were corrupted. He askt me, Whe-
ther

ther I did not think it meet for every one to bow at the Name of Jesus. I said, Yea. He said, Jesus, and bid me fall down, or bow my body. I told him, My heart and whole body was bowed under the Name of Jesus, but I should not stoop to his will, nor any man's else: He that departeth from iniquity, boweth to the Name of Jesus; but those that live in sin and wickedness, do not stoop to the Son of God. And he told me, they stood in the same Power the Apostles did, and were guided by the same Spirit as they were. I asked why they did abuse their Power then, and make use of Carnal Weapons. He said they did not, they were all spiritual, their Inquisition, & their Chains and Irons, and all is spiritual *. And he asked, Whether we judged them all damn'd that were not of our Judgement. I said, Nay, we had otherwise learned Christ; those that were in a Reprobate condition to day, the Lord may call them out of it to morrow, for what I know. He said, They did judge us damn'd, and all that were not of their Faith. I told him, Man's Judgement we did not matter.

* The wise may judge.

A VISION.

IN a Vision of the night I saw in the Firmament six Suns, one at a distance from the rest, that did appear to be but half an hour high; the other five stood four-square, one in the middle, and they did cross over each other; the highest did not seem to be above an hour high. And when I did awake, I was troubled in my Spirit to know the Vision; and I waited upon the Lord, and he signified to me in the Light, The six Suns were six Nations, whose Lights were near out; and the five which crossed each other, signified to me some rising amongst them.

And the Fryar came to me, and said, *It was God's will we should be kept there, or else they could not keep us.* I told him the Lord did suffer wicked men to do wickedly, but did not will them to do it. He did suffer *Herod* to take off *John Baptist*'s head, but he did not will him to do it; and did suffer *Stephen* to be stoned, and *Judas* to

betray Christ, but he did not will them to do it; for if he had, he would not have condemned them for it. He said, *Then we are wicked men*: I said, They are wicked men that work wickedness. The Fryar would say still, *We had not the true Faith*. We said, By Faith we stand, and by the Power of God we are upholden; dost thou think it is by our own power and holiness we are kept from a vain conversation, from sin and wickedness? He said, *That was our pride*. We said, No, We could glory in the Lord, we were children of wrath once as well as others; But the Lord hath quickned us that were dead, by the living Word of his Grace, and hath washed, cleansed and sanctified us through soul and spirit, in part, according to our measures, and we do press forward towards that which is perfect. He then did say, *We were good Women, but yet there was no redemption for us except we would be Catholicks*.

Now the Lord said, *Fear not Daughters of Sion, I will carry you forth as Gold tryed out of the fire*. And many precious promises did the Lord refresh us with, in our greatest extremity, and would appear in his glory, that our souls would be ravished in his presence. I had the Spirit of Prayer upon me, and I was afraid to speak to the Lord, for fear I should speak one word that would not please him. And the Lord said *Fear not Daughter of Sion, ask what thou wilt, and I will grant it thee, whatsoever thy heart can wish*. I desired nothing of the Lord but what would make for his glory, whether it were my liberty or bondage, life or death, wherein I was highly accepted of the Lord.

The Room wherein I was separated, was near the Chancery where all the Bishops Courtiers did resort, and would come into the Inquisition Courts, and I had Work amongst them daily; they would come on purpose to their condemnation; some would be smitten, and run as if they hunted, and some would be set on fire and cry, *Caldere, caldere*, and *fuoco, fuoco*; and many would pity us because we were not Catholicks; the Fryars would say, *We might be Catholicks, and keep our own Religion too; and we should not be known we were Catholicks, except we were brought before a Justice of Peace*. We ask'd if we should profess a Christ we should be asham'd of?

But as for the poor Workmen, they were willing to do any thing for us, and were diligent to hear us, the Witness of God in

them did answer to the truth; there were many eyes over them, had it not been for the great opposition, there were hundreds would have flown to the truth.

And because I said I did talk with *G.F.* he (the Fryar) asked, *Whether* G.F. *did bring me money to maintain me in prison.* I said, no, but though I was absent in body, yet I was present in spirit, and was refreshed in him, and in hundreds more besides. They said, *I had seen Revelations, and had talkt with* G. F. *and he was God's Revelation. Sarah* said, Christ was God's Revelation; he said, *she came under the Halter for saying Christ was God's Revelation.* She answered, St. *Paul* said, *As soon as it pleased God to reveal his Son in me, I did not consult with flesh and blood, but immediately I went and preached him*; and is not Christ God's Revelation then? He said, *who denied that?*

What they would have done to *Sarah* if they had taken her forth, we know not; but the Lord did work so wonderfully that night for the preservation of her poor soul out of their net, that he is worthy to be glorified for ever.

The next time he came to me, he came in sheeps clothing, but he had a Woolf under his Gown; he gave me words as soft as Butter, and as smooth as Oyl, when he had a Sword in his heart, and a Spear in his hand, when they speak most fairest, then beware of them.

He desired us *we would not think so hardly of him, as if he were the Author of all our wrongs and troubles; he was not* (he said) *but would do any good he could for us, were it with his blood.* But we thought he had been the chiefest that cast the poor man in prison, but he was the man that hope him out without any punishment at all, though the Inquisitor did say he should be severely punished. I told him he did well, he would have peace in it, and would never have cause to repent it. He did entreat us, *he might not bear all the burthen.* We told him of many wicked things he did act against us, and of his lying and cruel words. He bid us, *take no notice what he did speak.* But we did feel his spirit, that what he spake, he would do, if he had not been chained. I did use to tell him, My Conscience was not seared with a hot iron, I was not past feeling. At last he was so weary of coming to us, he did entreat the Inquisitor he might not come to us any more; the Judgements of the Lord did fol-

follow him so, it was like to kill him.

When we were parted, the Lord did vvork mightily for us, and we vvere kept by the Power of the Lord over our Enemies, and vvere bold for God's Truth, and did make war vvith them in righteousness, so that they could not gain-say us in the truth: So that Scripture was fulfilled, *The wicked mouths must be stopped*; and they vvere put to silence, praises be to our God, and were made to confess or say, *Of a truth God was in us*; our God was a consuming fire to them, they were not able to stand in his presence, but they vvould howl and make a noise like Dogs, and cry, *Jesu, Ma-* and flye as people driven by a mighty rushing Wind; the Power of the Lord did pursue after them like a Sword; that Scripture was fulfilled, which saith, *Christ came not to send peace on earth, but a sword*, to cut down his Enemies; the Lord was on our side, and did take our part, and did fight for us, and did tread down our Enemies under our feet, that they could not hurt us. Mighty vvas the Work of God daily, our tongues cannot express it; they did vvork day and night vvith their Inchantments and Divinations, Sorceries, unclean Spirits crying and foaming; insomuch we could take little rest day or night sometimes; but the Lord vvas vvith us, and did work mightily by his power, and kept us over them in the life of the Son of God. My Prison was nigh to the Pallace, and to their Worship, that I could be heard of both; and it was laid upon me of the Lord, to call them to repentance, and to turn to the Light vvherevvith they vvere enlightned, vvhich would lead them out of all their wicked Ways, Works and Worships, to serve the true and living God in spirit and in truth; the Power did raise the Witness in many, and troubled them; they did sigh and groan; and some did stay to hear me, so long as they durst; for there were many did watch; and it was upon pain of death, or at least to be imprisoned: As was the poor *English* man that did come and speak to me, whom they hall'd down violently, and put him in prison; but the Lord delivered him for his love.

And we were parted near a year, but great was the Work of the Lord, and great was the Power to carry it on. He was not wanting to us, glory be to his Name; but did give us Words and Wisdom according to our Work: So that Scripture was fulfilled which saith on this wise, *Ye need not premeditate afore-hand what*

ye

to speak, or what to say; for it shall be given you of my Heavenly Father what ye ought to speak, that the Enemies shall not gain say, they were so tormented, that they did run to the Hills and to the Mountains to cover them from the presence of the Lord, and from the Wrath of the Lamb which sits upon the Throne to judg them righteously, and to condemn them for all their wicked deeds which they so ungodlily had committed against him.

Oh the goodness of the Lord, and his long-suffering and forbearance which would lead them to repentance, but they would not hearken to his counsel, but turned his Laws behind their backs, and hated to be instructed by them; therefore the Lord did laugh at their destruction, and did mock when their fear came: Their wickedness was so great, and my burthens so heavy to bear it that I cryed to the Lord, and said, It is better for me to dye, than to live; and would gladly have given up my life in testimony against them all; I was (as it were) compell'd to declare against all their ways, works and worships, insomuch that they ran to the Inquisitor to have me chained, or punished some other way; but the Power of the Lord chained them, that they could not diminish a hair of my head; the Lord was my Safety, praises be to his Name for ever.

Now some as they passed to their Worship Houses, would sigh, and some pray, and some did throw stones at my Window; they did work night and day about the Prison, as though they would have broke through to slay me; but the Lord was with me, and did fight for me, and did scatter his Enemies as the dust before the Wind: Glory be to his Name for evermore.

I cannot expresse the large love of our God, how he did preserve us from so many deaths and threatnings, as they did come to me with falling down upon their knees, saying Mass, and would have me to say after them; but in the Name of the Lord I denied them. They would howle like Dogs, beause they could not beguile the innocent, and slay my righteous life; but praises be to the Lord our God, who did preserve me from the Woolf and the Devourers, denying them and their Sacrifices.

And when they saw they could not prevail to betray us from the truth, then they said, *they would give us to the Devil to be tormented, and deliver us over to their bad Catholicks, to do by us as they pleased;*

pleased; for they would use us badly, and so they did seek to do: Oh the cursed noises and cryes the *Sodomites* did make, crying, *Quake, Quake*; running about the Prison raging, and some singing and crouding round the Prison night and day, as if they would have broke through to slay me; and the sons of *Belial* did run to bear false witness, so that I looked every hour when they would fetch me out, and slay me. The Enemy did so work to perswade, that they had prest my dear yoke-fellow with stones, which was a great trouble to me, because I could not suffer death with her; I did yeild she had been slain: And afterwards this great tribulation being ended, then they said my (dear and faithful) yoke-fellow should be sent to *Rome*, and I should carry at *Malta*, which did so encrease my sorrow, and wrought upon my spirit to try and examine wherefore the Lord should deal so hardly with me, as to leave me behind; or whether he did not count me worthy to go and give in my testimony with her to *Rome*, and offer up my life for the Testimony of Jesus, than to have my liberty to return to *England* with her, and I cryed day and night to the Lord, and would not give my soul rest, nor my eyes sleep, till the Lord did answer me; glory and praises be to his Name for ever. But we saw *Jacob* must part with all, *Benjamin* must go too, So we were willing to give up in obedience to the Lord; our trials were unspeakable. Oh the unclean spirits! they would speak to us at noon-day; but the Lord did give us power over them, that we did not fear the wild Bores out of the Wood, nor the wild Beasts out of the Field.

Then there was one came and said, that *Catherine and I must be sent both to Rome*; Which did rejoice my soul, and renewed my strength, because the Lord did count me Worthy to go and give in my Testimony for his Truth, the Word of his Prophesie, before the great and mighty ones of the Earth. The Lord said, *I should not be afraid*; and he shewed me in the Light how he had bowed them down before us, and saw them in the Light of Christ, how the Pope, the Fryars and Sorcerers stood in ranks, bowing down before us. So we saw our Dominion in Spirit: They did work to send us to *Rome*, but the Lord did blast it, and fought against them, that they could not send us.

Now

Now our Teſtimony was as largely given in at *Rome*, as at *Malta*: The Fryars came to me, and ſhewed me *Mary* and her Babe pictured againſt the Wall, and would have me look upon it, I ſtampt with my foot and ſaid, Curſed be all Images and Image-makers, and all that fall down to worſhip them, Chriſt Jeſus is the expreſs Image of his Fathers brightneſs, which is Light and Life, who doth reveal the myſterie of iniquity, the cunning working of Satan, to draw out the mind to follow him from the pure life, and to veil over the Juſt One from beholding the Preſence of the Lord. But glory be to the Lord, who hath made him manifeſt in thouſands of his, in this Day of his Power, When we were ſeparated, we ſpake one and the ſame thing, being guided by one Spirit. They would go from me to *Catharine*, they would bid her *ſpeak as Sarah did*, and ſo ſhe did to their condemnation: Praiſes to the Lord, *Amen*.

A Paper ſent from them to the Pope's Lord Inquiſitor in MALTA.

For the Lord Inquiſitor and his Council, &c.

MEns perſons I cannot admire, they that do admire and reſpect any man's perſon, do it becauſe of advantage, and ſuch are tranſgreſſors, the Apoſtles (*St.* James *and* Jude) *ſay.*

In obedience to the Lord, in love to your ſouls, from the Fountain of Love, and Springs of Life that ſtream forth to the refreſhment of the whole City of God, am I conſtrained to viſit you with theſe few Lines; and I beſeech you to read it with the Spirit of Moderation and Meekneſs, and ſee that nothing in you ariſe up againſt it, for it is God's Truth.

Chriſt Jeſus who is the Light of the world, which hath enlightned every one that cometh into the world, ſaith, This is Life eternal, To know thee the onely true God, and Jeſus Chriſt whom thou haſt ſent.

sent. *Now the knowledge of God is Life Eternal, and there is no other way to come to this knowledge, but to have the mind turned from darkneſs to the Light, out of the viſible, to that which is inviſible, viz. the Light in the Conſcience, which convinceth of ſin and iniquity, when no mortal eye can ſee you; and as you come to love it, and to have your minds ſtaid upon it, you will feel the incomes of God's Power to adminiſter condemnation upon the tranſgreſſor, that keeps the pure Seed in bondage in you*; For Sion is redeemed through Judgement, and her Converts with Righteouſneſs.

Saint Paul *ſaith, If thou believeſt in thy heart the Lord Jeſus, and confeſſeſt with thy mouth that God hath raiſed him from the dead, thou ſhalt be ſaved; for with the heart man believeth unto ſalvation; and we do believe, and ſee, and teſte, and handle of the good Word of Life, and have received the Spirit of Truth, to lead us into all truth, and doth bring all things to our remembrance, without any viſible thing. And Saint* Paul *wrote to the* Galatians, *ſaying*, My little Children, of whom I travel in birth till Chriſt be formed in you. *Where Chriſt is formed* within, *there needs no form without; the outward form is called an Earthen Veſſel, or an Earthen Tabernacle, or an Earthen Houſe, but Chriſt Jeſus is the expreſs Image of his Father's Glory (or Subſtance) which is Light and Life.*

Now the Image of Chriſt is a pure and a holy Image, a meek and a Dove like Image, an innocent and a Lamb-like Image, a righteous and a glorious Image, Chriſt in you the hope of glory, ſaith the Apoſtle to the Saints.

The Lord our God hath given to every man a meaſure of the manifeſtation of his own Spirit to profit withall, which is the Light in the Conſcience, the true Teacher of his People; it is the Grace of God that bringeth ſalvation, that appeareth to all men, and it teacheth all that come, to believe in it, and to love, and to be guided by it, to deny all ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, and to walk ſoberly, righteouſly, holy and godly in this preſent world; and it will deal plainly with every one; none need to fear being deceived by that in them which doth condemn them for ſin and evil: But they that live in pride, are deceived already; they that live in covetouſneſs, are deceived already; and they that live in Luſts or Drunkenneſs, are deceived already; or in Lying, Swearing, Adultery or Idolatry, are deceived; or in Hypocriſie and Deceit, hard heartedneſs or Cruelty, they are deceived already; for thoſe

you

you know, are fruits which do proceed from a deceived heart, being corrupted for want of knowledge: My people perish for want of knowledge (saith God) He that hath not the spirit of Christ, is none of his, and he that hath the Spirit of Christ, ought himself to walk as Christ walked: Now Christ was no persecutor, he never imprisoned any, nor ever put any to suffer, but he and the holy Prophets and Apostles were made to suffer as evil-doers, this we know.

The Day of the Lord is hot and terrible against all sin and iniquity, and that nature from whence it doth proceed; and we are a WO *for all them that are laying up of a Fuel for it: This is God's Truth, whether you can receive it, yea or nay, I am ready to seal it with my blood, if the Lord shall call me to it.*

Whosoever shall interpret this Paper before the Lord Inquisitor, (so called) I charge thee in the Name of the living God, as thou wilt answer before his dreadful presence, to interpret it word by word, as it is written, without adding or diminishing.

Katharine Evans.

THe Fryar then came to me, and askt me, *why I did not work?* I said unto him, What Work dost thou do? He said *he did write.* I told him I would write too, if he would bring me a Pen, Ink and Paper; and I would write truth. He said, *He would not that we should write; for St.* Paul *did work at* Rome, *and we might get nine or ten grains a day, if we would knit, that is three half pence.* I told him, if we could have that priviledge amongst them, that St. Paul had at *Rome* under *Cæsar*, which was a Heathenish King, we would have wrought, and not have been chargeable to any. St. Paul lived in his own hired House two years, with a Souldier to keep to him, and had friends of the same Occupation to work with him, and could send where he would, and whosoever would come to him, might, and be taught them in the Name of the Lord Jesus, and no man forbad him. So I askt him, Whether he knew the holy War of God, yea or nay? if he did; I told him he then did know we could not be without exercise day nor night. Then his mouth

was ſtopped, and he ſpake no more to me of work: But though our affliction of body was very great, and our travel of ſoul was greater, yet we did knit Stockins, and gave to them that were made ſerviceable to us, and did make Garments for the poor priſoners, and mended their Clothes which had need, and were made helpful to them all, to their condemnation, that did perſecute us. But we could not vvork at the Fryar's Will, nor any man's elſe, but as we had freedom in the Lord.

As I vvas vveak in my bed, the Fryar came to me, and ſaid, *We did deny the Scriptures*: I told him, they did deny them, we did own them, and hold them forth, thou doſt know it: He was in a rage becauſe I ſaid, they denyed the Scriptures, bid me *eat my words again, and threatned death upon me.* I ſaid, Chriſt Jeſus was the Light of the World, and had lighted every one that cometh into the World, which Light is our ſalvation that do receive it, and the ſame Light is the World's condemnation that do not believe in it. Then he ſaid, *He would lay me in Chains, where I ſhould neither ſee Sun nor Moon.* They ſay, *The* Father *hath almoſt killed you*, ſaid he, *but I will kill you quite, before I have done.* He had a Book in his hand, and he did ſtudy in it; I told him he did comprehend the Words in his carnal mind, and he vvas vvrath, and ſaid *he would give me to the Devils to be tormented.* I ſaid, I deny the Devil and all his Works and Workers.

Some would come unto the Priſon upon their Saints days, and ask us *what day it was*? We did anſwer, We did not know, neither did we obſerve dayes nor times, months nor years. Then anſwer would be made, *It was* St. Joſeph's *day*, or ſome other Saint; *and* St. Joſeph *ſhould puniſh us that night, becauſe we did not obſerve his day.* We anſwered, We did know the Saints to be at peace with us, and we did not fear them. We further ſaid, St. *Paul* did call it beggarly Elements and Rudiments of the World, to obſerve days, times, months and years, and their mouths vvould be ſtopt for a time. Then came the Fryar another time, and told me, *it was ſeventeen dayes to their Chriſtmas*, and ſaid, *the Virgin Mary conceived with child that day*, being the ſame day he ſpake to me on, as if ſhe did go with Child but ſeventeen dayes. And he ſaid, *the next day was Lady* Ann's *day, the Virgin* Mary's *Mother, a Saint.*

I was

Then as I was crying to the Lord in Prayer becauſe of our long-ſuffering, & our ſtrong travel & labour & no fruit (as did appear) the Lord ſaid unto me, *Be not grieved, though* Iſrael *be not gathered; the ſeed of* Malta *ſhall be as the ſtars of the skie for multitude: That which ye have ſown, ſhall not dye, but live: Glory be to the Name of the Lord for ever.*

A Copy of a Writing from their hands, ſent in purſuit after the Fryar.

MALACHY;

THou ſaidſt thou wouldſt try whether we had the true Spirit' yea or nay, and thou haſt tryed day and night, but thou never triedſt the right way; the Seed of God is not tryed with deceit, lying, hypocriſie, nor cruelty: But if thou hadſt turned in with thy mind to the Light of God in thy Conſcience, thou wouldſt ſoon have known us; or had the love of Chriſt been ſhed abroad in thy heart, thou mightſt have comprehended us; or hadſt thou found the Ballance of the Sanctuary of the true Tabernacle, which God hath pitched, and not man, thou mightſt have weighed us; or hadſt thou laid Judgement to the Line, and Righteouſneſs to the Plummet, thou mightſt have fathomed us; or couldſt thou have opened the Book of Life, thou mightſt have read us; or hadſt thou went into the Houſe of Iſrael, thou mightſt have had fellowſhip with us, &c. Contrary to our wills were we caſt in amongſt you, and have given our teſtimony for the Lord, and called you all to repentance, and have forewarned you of the evil the Lord is bringing upon you; but you have ſlighted the day of your viſitation, and have done deſpite to the Spirit of Grace, and have caſt many hard ſpeeches and falſe aſperſions upon the Truth, and the Meſſengers thereof, and the Lord will viſit for theſe things; and you have blinded your eyes that you will not ſee, and ſtopped your ears that you might not hear, and hardened your hearts that you might not underſtand; leaſt you ſhould ſee with your eyes, and hear with your ears, and underſtand with your hearts, and turn to the Lord, and be converted, and he ſhould heal you. Oh that you had known in this your day, what had belonged to your peace; but now it is hid from your eyes. The deſire of our ſouls is, That

every one may repent that can find a place; and whatever you have done to us, we desire it may not be laid to your charge; for we count our selves happy that we were found worthy to suffer for the Name of the Lord.

Written in the Inquisition-Prison in the Isle of *Malta*.

Katharine Evans.
Sarah Chevers.

Behold victorious Hymns, Songs, Praises, all in Verse, the same sprung from the Seed of Life, its perfect Righteousness.

OH Lord my life is given up,
thy truth for to declare;
Lord keep me in thy Arms,
and guide me in thy fear.
Thy Bow is bent, thy Sword is drawn
thy enemies to deface,
Thy fire's kindl'd 'gainst all those
that Truth wil not embrace.
Thine Arrows sharp and keen,
upon their heads shall fall,
Thy double-edged Sword also,
to cut them down withall.
So plague the Heathen, & correct
the people in thy wrath,
That they may fear & dread thy Name
and come to know thy truth.
Throughout the World so wide,
thy truth thou dost declare,
Thy saving health for to enjoy,
by thy Light doth appear.
Thou dost send forth thy Messengers,
glad tydings to proclaim,
To call the hungry forth to feed
on thy Lamb being slain.
Feasts of fat things thou dost prepare
the hungry for to feed,
And cloath the nak'd with Garments fair,
that want and stand in need.
Heaven's glory is appearing,
its brightness shineth forth,
Over all Nations it is clearing,
the Lords Eternal Truth.
Every one that's in darkness,
and under its shadow lye,
May come forth into the brightness
out of obscurity.
Oh Lord teach me thy wayes,
that I may walk therein,
And lead me in thy Path of life,
and cleanse me from all sin.
How gracious is our God,
and kind to Israel,
With us he doth make his Abode,
his presence doth us fill.

So

So that we are not desolate,
nor yet distrest with woes,
Because the Lord doth take our part,
and doth confound our foes,
Every one that is oppresst
and cast in danger deep,
If that in God they put their trust,
he will them safely keep.
Right dear and precious to the Lord
are all his little ones,
That suffer for his holy Name,
he will avenge their wrongs.
And in his wrath he will destroy
his enemies so stout,
And suddenly will make a way,
and lead his servants out.
And he himself will them restore
to joy and comfort both,
And will preserve them evermore,
because they do him love.
But as for men of corrupt minds
whose wayes defiled are,
The Lord will visit with all kinds
of judgments, and not spare.
He will pursue them with his Sword,
and cut them to the ground,
That do reject his holy Word,
his Plagues shall them confound.
Because that they do not obey
his Mercies and his Grace,
Which he so free to them doth give
if they would them embrace.
But as their Fathers did,
so they requite the Lord with wrong,
And persecute thy Messengers,
and make them suffer long
Because that they the Truth declare
as Scripture telleth plain,
That Christ himself, the Lord's own Heir,
is come, and he will reign
Both Lord, and Prince, and King also,
throughout the World that's wide,
And Antichrist will overthrow,
and *Babel* in her pride:
It's not their golden Candlesticks,
nor Lamps that be so many,
That can shine through the Clouds so thick,
to give a Light to any.
To lead to a true resting-place,
where they may still behold
The beauty of God's glorious face,
more bright than fined Gold.
Thou seest oh Lord, what man hath done
for to exalt himself
Against the Lord thy blessed Son,
who is our saving health.
They have changed his glorious Form
[illegible]nage that's so bright,
And fashion'd it like sinful man,
corrupted in thy sight,

Arise

Arise oh Lord, arise in haste,
and punish for these things,
These men that have sought thy
disgrace,
that they might reign as Kings
Over thine own Inheritance,
contrary to thy will,
To keep them still in ignorance,
without knowledge or skill.
But now the God of Power is
come,
to raise up *Sion* bright,
And to build up *Jerusalem*
in all the Heathens sight.
The Gates of Hell shall not pre-
vail,
though they be wide & strong,
Against the gathering in of all
that to the Lord belong.
All glory, honor, laud and praise
be to the Lord of Might,
Who hath made known in these
our dayes,
his Way, his Truth, his Light.

Concerning the Cross of Christ, which is not a visible sign, or a piece of Wood, but the invisible and immortal Power of the Lord God, and his Wisdom unto salvation, to and in all them that believe, is the same Christ, the Power of God, and the wisdom of God: But the same Crosse is to the outward Jew, *(or* Christian*) a stumbling-block, and to the wise* Greek *(that's exalted and puft up in the knowledge above, and over the meek life) foolishness, as saith the Scripture,* 1 Cor. 1, 18, 19.

CHrist's Cross I do embrace,
Which gives me an entrance
into Grace;
Sin and Death it doth deface,
And makes me run a glorious
race,
A Crown of Life and Grace I do
obtain,
And sin and death is daily slain,
And Christ himself alone to reign
Through the Cross I do obtain.

The Cross of Christ is more
to me
Than all the Treasures I can see:
It brings me to my resting-place
For to behold God's lovely face.
The Cross of Christ is Power in-
deed
Against the Serpent and his seed.
And salvation it doth bring
To all that do believe therein.

The

The Croſs of Chriſt is my delight,
It doth uphold me day and night:
It keeps me from the power of ſin,
Through Chriſt who is my Heavenly King.

Without the Croſs I cannot be
From ſin and death at all ſet free,
The Croſs alone doth crucifie
Tranſgreſſion, ſin, iniqaity.

It doth break down the middle Wall,
And ſlays the enmity withall:
And makes of twain one perefect man,
And ſo renews Chriſt for me again.

The Croſs of Chriſt it doth deſtroy
That Nature that doth diſobey,
In thoſe that do themſelves deny,
And take it up moſt willingly,
And daily bear it after him,
Who is our Lord, and Prince, and King;
And not at all to let it down,
Till they come to enjoy the Crown.

The Croſs of Chriſt is power and life,
It doth deſtroy all mortal ſtrife;
It keepeth from the Power of ſin,
All thoſe that love to walk therein.

All that do own Chriſt Jeſus Croſs,
Through ſelf-denial they muſt paſs,
For to be purged from their ſin,
And no longer live therein.

The Croſs of Chriſt doth operate
Through every vein and vital part,
The heart and reins to cleanſe from ſin,
Of them that's exercis'd therein.

They that live in ſin and wickedneſs,
are enemies to Chriſt Jeſus Croſs;
For all ſin and uncleanneſs
doth pierce the life of Chriſt Jeſus.

Perfect Love, and breathings of undefiled Life, to the Seed of God, greeting.

THe ſtreams of beauty, pure and bright,
That ſpringeth up both day and night.
MY love to truth doth me conſtrain
In Priſon ever to remain;
If it be ſo that even I
Cannot in truth be ſet at liberty.
My deare Redeemer's face ſo bright,
Doth ſhine upon me day & night:
His count'nance doth exceed all
Captivity and bodage, thrall,
Amen. K. E.

My Love,
It cometh from a harmleſs Dove,
Within vvhoſe breaſts doth ſtill remain
God's perfect praiſes to maintain.
I have not time nor place to ſhovv
The love vvhich from my ſoul doth flovv,
The bleſſing of the Almighty be upon thee,
And upon the vvhole *Iſrael* of God, *Amen.*

THeſe Writings following are Copies of diver: Letters which they had written to their Friends and near Relations in the time of my viſitation of them: But it came ſo to paſs, that as they were handing the ſame through the Grate of the Priſon by the hand of another man to be communicated to my hand, being then preſent in the Room alſo, that the ſaid Letters were intercepted, and in the firſt place communicated to the Pope's Lord Inquiſitor, and he forthvvith ſent for the Conſul, and charged him to get the ſame truly copied forth. Then the Conſul vvas vvrath vvith me that he ſhould be exerciſed vvith ſo much trouble: But in the Light and Counſel of my God *I* ſeeing and knovving that there vvas nothing in them but vvhat came from a good ground of innocency and truth, and pure natural affection, *I* was moved in bovvels of tender love, leſt the ſaid Letters ſhould be finally miſcarried, or ſhut up in obſcurity, therefore *I* pro-

propounded to the Conſul, If that were ſuch a trouble to him, if he would let me have the Letters, I ſhould copy them out truly. And after ſome time he conſented, and gave them into my hand, and laid it upon my Conſcience to perform as I had ſaid, which I did with gladneſs of heart, not in ſubmiſſion to his Will, but in obedience to the God of Love and Peace which guided me in the ſame, and ſo after I had finiſhed them, I gave the fair Copies into the Conſul's hands for his Lord Inquiſitor.

And ſo in the wiſdom of the Lord, which is wiſer than the Serpents, I obtained the very deſire of my heart for his Truth and Peoples ſake, and retained the Original Copies, and in the endleſs Love and Power of the Lord Almighty, which was, and is with me, and accompanied me (bleſſed and magnified be the Power of his excellent Majeſty and Glory, *Amen*) over the heads of the lofty Mountains, and barren Hills, I brought the Treaſures of a bleſſed and good ground away with this body in which I am, ſo that they were not onely in my hands, but alſo the precious ſubſtance and virtue of the ſame that accompanied them, even in my heart, within my boſom; and the Words of Wiſdome, Life did I wear as a Chain of precious Stones and Diamonds about my neck, and as Bracelets and Ornaments of a comely and delicate chaſte Bride, about my hands and loins; and behold the Almighty Lord and King of Eternal Life, that had ſo mightily preſerved me in the ſhadow of his hand of Almightineſs, which ſtopt the mouths of devouring Lyons, and chained and limited the ravening and devouring wild Beaſts of the Forreſt, even he the King of bleſſedneſs and endleſs glory, filled my heart with his ſpotleſs and unexpreſſible Love: And as I lay upon the deck of the Veſſel in which I was a paſſenger, and a ſtranger among men of many and divers Nations, in the morning of the day I felt and beheld the exceeding glory of the Lord under the ſecret ſhadow of his Almightineſs, in a Viſion of God; and in the ſame I beheld the Bride, the Lamb's Wife, prepared for the Bridegroom's coming; and why ſhould not I declare ſomewhat of the felicity that mine eye in the Eternal Life of Bleſſedneſs ſaw, albeit the reſt is unutterable which I felt, and know how to be ſilent in the Father's preſence, where every Babe knoweth my voice, which is to give a ſound in their ears to whom I write; and not to ſpread

Pearls before Swine, that will defile and trample on them; That mine eye, mine eye hath ſeen, and perfectly beheld the Free-born from above, coming out of the Wilderneſs, covered with goodly and comely Raiment, white and clean, as the light of the Sun, or as a Stone moſt precious, clear as Chryſtal, and mine eye beheld a Crown which was embraced in the Arms of the Bridegroom, and the Crown was well adorned with many Stars which did excel each other in glory, and mine eye beheld the Son as a Bridegroom rejoicing over the Virgin-Bride of his Eſpouſal, ſo that I was even ſick with pure and undefiled love. Mine eye, mine eye did ſo affect my heart, ſo that I awaked in the ſame, in the morning of a clear day, and I looked, and behold the Sun was ariſen above the *Horizon* of the Earth and Waters, and my Life abundantly bleſſed and magnified the living Lord, my King and my God, the Rock of my ſtrength, and ſaving health of his Annointed, and behold *I* had ſeen a Viſion of God in the morning-Light, and the ſweet *ſolution* of the ſame was given me to treaſure up within my very heart, till an appointed time and ſeaſon; the children of the Morning-light may right-well read the ſame as they ſit together in their ſeveral places that's over and above the earth, and be comforted and refreſhed at the joyful ſound of the ſame voice that brings the glad tydings of the good things; yea and my Spirit with you the bleſſed of the Lord, ſhall bleſs his Name who is the mighty God in the midſt of us: Even ſo *Amen*, *Hale-lu-jah*.

Praiſe ye the Lord, Salvation to his Name,
Ye Saints in Life,
Free from all ſtrife,
Your voice ſound forth the ſame

My Life ſhall ſing
To *Sion*'s King,
His Love in peace and glory,
Who hath ſo free
Begotten me
Into his Life that's holy,

Among his Saints & Meſſengers,
His fame my heart ſhall ſound,
Becauſe their life
is free from ſtrife,
In love that doth abound.

My prayers in the life that's clean,
ſhall from the ſame aſcend,
Unto the God of Love and peace,
that he may you defend.

To-

To perfect love and unity,
that it may more abound;
for so your fame
in his pure Name
Doth give a certain sound.

Unto the Nations round about,
your fame aloud shall sing,
to call them all
both great and small,
To bow to *Sion*'s King.

Your Gates alwayes
(Of perfect praise)
Full wide shall open stand,
that all may come
i'th free born Son
(Th' *Light*) to dwel in your Land

Of rest and peace
in righteousness,
I'th living way that's holy;
so you shall sing,
and fruit shall spring
Within the City holy.

The Vine that's true,
shall compass you
That sit under his shade,
with great delight
in his clear sight,
None shal make you afraid.

Within the perfect love here is
no fear,
So in the Father's sight you are
right dear.

My bowels and my soul, my ve-
ry heart
To you ye living Saints extends;
much could *I* write
in the true light,
But ye can read my Friends,

Without a Book of words
Which finally may end;
My mind that's clean,
Come read the same,
Behold *I* am your friend.
In Jacob's Land
Where he did stand.
I'th place that's blest,
Where he did rest,
Who like a Prince prevail'd
with the true Lord of Might,
Who also blessed him
even in the morning-Light,
Selah.

And seeing that it happened so, that the Copies of the Letters of the Lords Prisoners, were left in the hands of their Enemies, in a strange Land, it is seen meet to insert them among the rest of their Writings, for the good of many of their own Nation of *England*, who may right-well savour the tender love and virtue of true and pure natural affection, not onely to their kindred and Fathers House, but also to their own Countrey; all of which they were truly called to forsake, as was good old *Abraham* our Father,

who in obedience to the good Word and Commandment of the Almighty God, went forth, not knowing whither he went, even as theſe poor, and many more, who are deemed by the wiſe of this world, fooliſh things, not well conſidering how that the Lord hath choſen the poor of this world, and made them rich in faith, and alſo chuſeth baſe things, and weak things, and fooliſh things, to confound the things that are mighty, and to bring to nought things that are, to the end that no fleſh ſhould glory in his preſence, who with his mighty hand and outſtretched arm of Dignity and excellent Power, is defacing and ſtaining the pride of all glory, and bringing into contempt all the honorable of the Earth that's out of order, and bringing down the haughtineſs and loftineſs of man, who ſhall know that it is the everlaſting and terrible God of Eternity, when he ariſeth to ſhake terribly the Earth, that preſſeth down and oppreſſeth the Seed of his Bowels, and trampleth on the principal Wheat that came out of the good Husband-mans right hand, for which the God of Heaven is viſiting the Nations as in the ancient days: Albeit he hath long time held his peace in the habitation of his Holineſs, where his Honor dwelleth; but behold, behold, he is ariſing in the greatneſs of his ſtrength, even as a Lyon over his prey, or as a Lyonneſs bereaved of her young; for out of *Sion* hath he uttered his voice, and thundered forth the Majeſty of his powerful Word of Salvation, through the Gate of his beloved City *Jeruſalem* from on high, free-born; which hath ecchoed into the ears & hearts of the Hypocrites, & ſurprized the double-minded with fear on every hand, for he hath cryed, and yet will, in the ſpirit of his Propheſie through his Sons and Daughters, in whom he which is holy dwelleth, to make waſte Mountains and Hills, and to devour at once as in the ancient dayes; and my ſpirit ſaith, Even ſo the Lord haſten it (*Amen*) for his Elects ſake.

Katha-

Katharine Evans *to her Husband and Children.*

For the hand of *JOHN EVANS*, my right dear and precious Husband, with my tender-hearted Children, who are more dear and precious unto me, than the apple of mine eye.

MOst dear and faithful Husband, Friend and Brother, begotten of my Eternal Father, of the immortal Seed of the Covenant of Light, Life and Bleſſedneſſe, I have unity and fellowſhip with thee day and night, to my great refreſhment and continual comfort, praiſes, praiſes be given to our God for evermore, who hath joined us together in that which neither Sea nor Land can ſeparate or divide.

My dear heart, my ſoul doth dearly ſalute thee, with my dear and precious Children, which are dear and precious in the Light of the Lord, to thy endleſs joy, and my everlaſting comfort; glory be to our Lord God eternally, who hath called you with a holy Calling, and hath cauſed his Beauty to ſhine upon you in this the day of his Power, wherein he is making up of his Jewels, and binding up of his faithful ones in the Bond of everlaſting Love and Salvation, among whom he hath numbred you of his own free Grace; in which I beſeech you (dear hearts) in the fear of the Lord to abide in your meaſures, according to the manifeſtation of the Revelation of the Son of God in you; keep a diligent watch over every thought, word and action, and let your minds be ſtaid continually in the Light, where you will find out the ſnares and baits of Satan, and be preſerved out of his Traps, Nets and Pits, that you may not be captivated by him at his will. Oh my dear Husband and Children, how often have I poured out my ſoul to our everlaſting Father for you, with Rivers of tears, night and day, that you might be kept pure and ſingle in the ſight of our God, improving your Talents as wiſe Virgins, having Oyl in your Veſſels, and your Lamps burning, and cloathed with the long white Robes of Righteouſneſs, ready to enter the Bed-Chamber, and to ſup with the

Lamb

Lamb, and to feed at the Feast of fat things, where your souls may be nourished, refreshed, comforted, and satisfied, never to hunger again.

My dear hearts, you do not want teaching, you are in a Land of Blessedness, which floweth with Milk and Honey, among the faithful Stewards, whose mouths are opened wide in righteousness, to declare the Eternal Mysteries of the everlasting Kingdom, of the endless joys and eternal glory, whereinto all the willing and obedient shall enter, and be blessed for ever.

My dear hearts, the promises of the Lord are large, and are all Yea *and* Amen *to those that fear his Name; he will comfort the Mourners in* Sion, *and will cause the heavy-hearted in* Jerusalem *to rejoice, because of the glad tydings; they that do bear the Cross with patience, shall wear the Crown with joy; for it is through the long-suffering and patient waitings, the Crown of Life and Immortality comes to be obtained; the Lord hath exercised my patience, and tryed me to the uttermost, to his praise and my eternal comfort, who hath not been wanting to us in any thing in his own due time; We are Witnesses he can provide a Table in the Wilderness both spiritual and temporal. Oh the endless love of our God, who is an everlasting Fountain of all living refreshment; whose Chrystal streams never cease running to every thirsty soul, that breatheth after the springs of Life and Salvation.*

In our deepest affliction, when I looked for every breath to be the last, I could not wish I had not come over Seas, because I knew it was my Eternal Father's Will to prove me, with my dear and faithful Friend; in all afflictions and miseries, the Lord remembred mercy, and did not leave nor forsake us, nor suffer his faithfulness to fail us, but caused the sweet drops of his mercy to distil upon us, and the brightness of his glorious countenance to shine into our hearts, and was never wanting to us in Revelations nor Visions. Oh how may I do to set forth the fulness of God's Love to our souls! No tongue can express it, no heart can conceive it, nor mind can comprehend it. Oh the ravishments, the raptures, the glorious bright-shining countenance of our Lord God, who is our fulness in emptiness ourstength in weakness, our health in sickness, our life in death, our joy in sorrow, our peace in disquietness, our praise in heaviness, our power in all needs or necessities; He alone is a full God unto us, and to all that can trust him; he hath emptied us of our selves, and hath unbottomed us of our selves, and hath wholly built us upon the sure Foundation,

tion, the Rock of Ages, Christ Jesus the Light of the world, where the swelling Seas, nor raging, foaming Waves, nor stormy winds, though they beat vehemently, cannot be able to remove us; Glory, honor and praises is to our God for ever, who out of his everlasting Treasures doth fill us with his Eternal Riches day by day; he did nourish our souls with the choicest of his mercies, and doth feed our bodies with his good Creatures, and relieve all our necessities in a full measure, praises, praises be to him alone, who is our everlasting portion, our confidence, and our rejoicing, whom we serve acceptably with reverence and God-like fear; for our God is a consuming fire.

Oh my dear Husband and precious Children, you may feel the issues of Love and Life which stream forth as a River to every soul of you, from a heart that is wholly joined to the Fountain; my prayers are for you day and night without ceasing, beseeching the Lord God of Power to pour down his tender mercies upon you, and to keep you in his pure fear, and to encrease your faith, to confirm you in all righteousness, and strengthen you in believing in the Name of the Lord God Almighty, that you may be established as Mount Sion, *that can never be moved. Keep your souls unspotted of the world, and love one another with a pure heart, fervently serve one another in love; build up one another in the Eternal, and bear one anothers burdens for the Seeds sake, and so fulfil the Law of God. This is the Word of the Lord unto you, my dearly beloved.*

Dear hearts, I do commit you into the hands of the Almighty, who dwelleth on high, and to the Word of his Grace in you, who is able to build you up to everlasting life, and eternal salvation. By me who am thy dear and precious Wife, and Sponse, in the Marriage of the Lamb, in the bed unndefiled, K. E.

My dearly beloved Yoak-mate in the Work of our God, doth dearly salute you; Salute us dearly to our precious Friends in all places. I do believe we shall see your faces again with joy. Dearly salute us to T.H. R.S. *and his sister,* S.B. *and his daughter,* N.M. *and his dear Wife, with all the rest of our dear Friends in* Bristol. T.C. *and his deart Wife and Daughter, and all Friends in* Bristol *or else-where.* J.G. *and his precious Wife, Children and Servants, with all Friends. Our dear love to* E.H. *with her Husband and Children at* Alderberry.

The original of this was written in the Inquisition in *Malta*, in the 11*th*, Month of the year 1661.

Sarah

Sarah Chevers to her Husband and Children.

MY Dear Husband, my love, my life is given up to ſerve the living God, and to obey his pure Call in the meaſure of the manifeſtation of his Love, Light, Life and Spirit of Chriſt Jeſus, his onely begotten Son, whom he hath manifeſted in me and thouſands, by the brightneſs of his appearing, to put an end to ſin and Satan, and bring to light Immortality through the preaching of the everlaſting Goſpel by the Spirit of Propheſie, which is poured out upon the ſons and daughters of the living God, according to his purpoſe, whereof he hath choſen me, who am the leaſt of all; but God who is rich in mercy, for his own Name ſake hath paſſed by mine offences, and hath counted me worthy to bear teſtimony to his holy Name before the mighty men of the Earth. Oh the love of the Lord to my ſoul! my tongue cannot expreſs, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive of the things that God hath laid up for them that fear him.

Therefore doth my ſoul breath to my God for thee and my Children, night and day, that your minds may be joined to the Light of the Lord Jeſus, to lead you out of Satans Kingdom, into the Kingdom of God, where we may enjoy one another in the Life Eternal, where neither Sea nor Land can ſeparate; in which Light and Life do I ſalute thee my dear Husband, with my Children, wiſhing you to embrace Gods love in making his Truth ſo clearly manifeſt amongſt you, whereof I am a Witneſs even of the everlaſting Fountain that hath been opened by the Meſſengers of Chriſt, who preach to you the Word of God in ſeaſon, and out of ſeaſon, directing you where you may find your Saviour to purge and cleanſe you from your ſins, and to reconcile you to his Father, and to have unity with him and all the Saints, in the Light, that ye may be fellow-Citizens in the Kingdom of Glory, Reſt and Peace, which Chriſt hath purchaſed for them that love him, and obey him: What profit is there for to gain the whole world, and loſe your own ſouls? Seek firſt the King-

dom

dom of God, and the Righteouſneſs thereof, and all other things ſhall be added to you, Godlineſs is great gain, having the promiſe of this life that now is, and that which is to come; which is fulfilled to me, who have taſted of the Lords endleſſe love and mercies to my ſoul, & from a moving of the ſame love and life do I breath to thee my dear Husband, with my Children; my dear love ſalutes you all; my Prayers to my God are for you all, that your minds may be joined to the Light wherewith you are lightened, that I may enjoy you in that which is Eternal, and have community with you in the Spirit: He that is joined to the Lord, is one ſpirit, one heart, one mind, one ſoul, to ſerve the Lord with one conſent. I cannot by Pen or Paper ſet forth the large love of God in fulfilling his gracious promiſes to me in the Wilderneſs, being put into priſon for God's Truth, there to remain all days of my life, being ſearched, tryed, examined upon pain of death among the Enemies of God and his Truth; ſtanding in jeopardy for my life, until the Lord had ſubdued and brought them under by his mighty Power, and made them to feed us, and would have given us money or clothes; but the Lord did deck our Table richly in the Wilderneſs, the day of the Lord is appearing, wherein he will diſcover every deed of darkneſs, let it be done never ſo ſecret; the light of Chriſt Jeſus will make it manifeſt in every Conſcience; the Lord will rip up all coverings that is not of his own Spirit. The God of Peace be with you all. **Amen.**

Written in the Inquiſition-Priſon by the hand of *Sarah Chevers*, for the hand of *Henry Chevers* my dear Husband; give this, fail not.

I do not well remember that this was one of the ſurprized Letters.

A Letter to a Kinswoman of S. C.

S. P.

MY dear Kinswoman, I dearly salute thee, with thy Husband, and thy tender Babes: I am not unmindful of thee, nor of thy love that thou shewedst to me; I know thou shalt not lose thy reward; thou hast found refreshment in it; for it was of the Lord; My Burthen was weighty for the Lord, I would have fled the Cross; but praise be to the Lord that kept me to it, that I might not lose the Crown. I was straitned in it, till I gave up to it; praised be the Name of our God for ever Amen. Stand fast in the Lord, let none take thy Crown. The God of Power preserve and keep thee low and single in his fear, pressing forward to the prize of an incorruptible Crown of Glory, Peace and Rest, out of all strife. Keep to the pure life, watch the Enemy, keep thy mind staid in the measure of God's Grace, that is able to make thee wise unto salvation, and to give thee an inheritance with the rest of the Children of Light. My tender Lamb, fear and dread the living God, keep in his presence, go not out to let in the Enemy, to break thy peace and to darken thy understanding, and to vail over the pure, from beholding thy Saviour: Incline thine ear to him, give up to a daily Cross to thy own will; Stand single, empty, wait upon the Lord to be fill'd with his fulness; let him be all thy treasure, ask of him, he giveth liberally. Believe, and thou shalt receive; his promise is large, I have found it so. Having nothing, yet enjoying all things, I have tasted, handled and felt of his everlasting love, and indurable Riches; my life is wrapt up in it; I have found him whom my soul loveth; Oh what might I do to set him forth! He is the choicest of ten thousands, therefore doth my soul love him.

My life is given up for him, his truth for to declare;
Lord guide me in thy path, and keep me in thy fear. *Amen.*

Thy dear Aunt; My dear love and life is with thee, and I do embrace thee in the Arms and Bosom of my Eternal Father's love, with thy dear Husband and little ones.

Another

Another in the ſame Paper to Friends.

MY dearly beloved Siſters and Friends of Truth, I dearly ſalute you in the Light, Life and Love of our God, which is ſhed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghoſt, wherein I do rejoice, and have union with you. My Life is given up to ſerve the Lord. O how my ſoul travels for the Seed of God's Kingdom to be ſown throughout all Nations, for the gathering in of Chriſt's ſcattered Flock, and for the deſtruction of ſin and Satan. For our God is weighing the Mountains in Skales, and the Duſt in equal anBallance: He is a pulling down the mighty, and raiſing the meek, humble, lowly; he is a feeding the poor and hungry with good things, but the rich he ſends empty away. My dear Babes and Lambs, feed of the ſincere Milk of the Word of Life, that you may grow up in it, and wax ſtrong in ſpirit to praiſe the Lord, and to glorifie him who is worthy. Be ſtrong in the Lord, and in the Power of his Might; ſeek him earneſtly, call upon him continually; let your whole Meditations be ſtaid in him alway. Seek him earneſtly, deny your own thoughts and words; give heed to the Light, bring all your deeds to it; give up all that is contrary, to be ſlain; ſtand ſingle, empty, naked before the Lord, that you may be fill'd with the ſtreams of his everlaſting Love. Oh my dear hearts! our God is full of love; ſtand not back, preſs forward, let nothing hinder you; the Lord calls for you, *My Son, give me thy heart*: The promiſe of our God is as large to you as to any, if you can believe; your ſtraitneſs is in your ſelves; For God is a full Fountain; abundance of love runs forth to them that can truſt him, I can witneſs it; in the barren Wilderneſs he cauſed ſtreams of living water to break forth: I cannot expreſs it is ſo large; therefore doth my ſoul thirſt after you, my dear ones; the love of God is to you. My dear Siſters, I have you in my remembrance, and do pray to my God and your God, that you may be enlarged in your meaſures to praiſe the Lord, and to be kept in a ſenſible feeling of his power daily; and that you may

encreaſe in Wiſdom, Strength and Power over Gods Enemies. The Bleſſing of the Lord God Almighty be with you, and preſerve you by his Mighty Power, unto the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, *Amen*.

Salute me to my Siſter *S. R.* there is a tender Plant in her, I do feel it to my comfort, praiſes be to the Lord, I am in health I praiſe the Lord, and do want nothing, the Lord is my portion, I cannot want; he hath deck't my Table richly, he hath annointed my head with Balm, it runneth down the skirts of my cloathing.

Written in the Inquiſition-Priſon at the Iſle of *Malta*, a ſufferer for the Seeds ſake. Farewel at this time, *Amen*.

Your dear Siſter in the Lord,

SARAH CHEVERS.

Another from *K. E.* to her Husband and Children, with ſomewhat from both the Lords Priſoners, to Friends, the which was taken with the reſt of the Letters, in the Inquiſition, and copied out for their Lord Inquiſitor.

DEar Husband, with my dear Children, I beſeech you together, to wait in the patience, having your minds alwayes ſtaid upon the Lord: Keep out of incumbrances, for that is the Enemies opportunity to ſtep in, when the mind is gone forth, and to vail the pure, and darken the underſtanding, and ſo hinder you of the pure enjoyment of the beholding the glory of God in the face of Jeſus Chriſt.

Take no more upon you then you are able to perform in the Spirit of moderation and meekneſs, for that is in the ſight of God of great prize; See the Lord going before you in all your occaſions, that you may be proſperous in all your undertakings, wait diligently upon the Lord, to be ſeaſoned with his Grace, that you may come to a pure underſtanding of the mot-

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ons of his Eternal Spirit, and to a true knowledge of the operation of his hands; So you will be able with all Saints, to comprehend what is the heigth, and the depth, and the length, and the breadth of the riches of his Grace and Love towards mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; *Amen*, saith my spirit: This is the counsel of the Lord unto you.

I do often remember *M.H.* I do desire she may be brought up in the fear of God, and want for nothing that is convenient for her; salute me to her dearly. I have been very sensible, dear Husband, of thine, and our Children, and many dear friends more, of your sorrowful souls, mourning hearts, grieved spirits, troubled minds for us, as being Members of one body, Christ Jesus being our Head; we must needs suffer together, that we may rejoice together; a true sorrow begets a true joy, a true Cross a true Crown. We do believe it is our heavenly Fathers will and purpose to bring us back as safe to *England*, as ever he brought us thence, for his own glory, though we are some of the least of Christ's Flock, yet we do belong to the true Fold, and our Shepherd hath had as great a care of us, as he could have for any of his Lambs, and hath brought us through great affliction, praises be given to his glorious Name, of us, and you, and all that know him, for ever. Though we are absent in body in the Will of God, from you, yet we are present in spirit in the Will of God, with you, and do receive the benefit of all your prayers daily, and do feel the Springs of Life that do stream from all the faithful hearted, to our great refreshment and strengthening.

After our money was gone, the Lord Inquisitor, with the rest in Authority, put a great allowance in one of their servants hands for our maintenance, because we could take no money our selves; the Lord of Heaven did forbid us to meddle with any; and he did send to know whether we did want any clothes, he would send it to the Prison to us: This was the large love of our God to us, and we were made contented with that we had, till the Lord God (who is rich in mercy, and full of all Grace, and is never unmindful of any which trust in his Name) of his everlasting love did send his faithful Messenger, whose feet are beautiful, and face is comely, cloathed with a bright shining Garment from the Crown of the head, to the sole of the foot, and came in great power and

strength

ſtrength indeed, armed with the whole Armour of Light, and dreſt in the Majeſty of the Moſt High, and being commiſſioned of the Higher Power, went to the *Lord Inquiſitor* to demand our lawful liberty, which would not be granted, except we could get ſome *Engliſh* Merchants of *Legorn* or *Meſſana* to engage four thouſands Dollers that we ſhould never come into thoſe parts again; the Lord (who alone is our Life and Redeemer) moved our dear Brother to offer his own body to redeem ours, but it would not be received: then he offered to lay down his own dear and precious life for our liberty: Greater love can no man have, than to lay down his life for his Friends; the Lord will reſtore it into his boſom double; his ſervice can never be blotted out; his Name is called *Daniel Baker*, his outward being is near *London*, a right dear and precious heart he is: The bleſſing, ſtrength, and power of the Almighty be upon him and his, and overſhadow them for ever, *Amen*. Greater comfort could never be adminiſtred to us in our conditions; Glory, honor and praiſe to our God for evermore, *Amen*.

This is a dear and ſweet Salutation in that which never changeth, fadeth away, nor waxeth old, from us whom the Lord hath counted worthy to bear his Name, and to ſuffer for his ſake, to all our Chriſtian Friends, Fathers and Elders, Pillars of Gods ſpiritual Houſe, Brethren and Siſters in the Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

Oh my dear Husband, with our dear and precious Children, Lambs of God, and Babes of Chriſt, begotten of the Immortal Seed of Light, Life and Truth, with us, and all the whole Family of everlaſting bleſſedneſs.

Pray for us believingly; all things are poſſible with our God. So my Dearlings, in the arms of everlaſting love do I take my leave of you, the bleſſing and peace of the Moſt High be upon you ever, *Amen*, *Amen*.

Oh my dear Husband! praiſe the Lord that ever thou hadſt a Wife that was found worthy to ſuffer for the Name of the Lord. Inaſmuch as I can underſtand the moving of the Spirit of God: My dear and faithful Yoke-fellow, Siſter and Friend, is worthy

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to be embraced of all friends for ever; the deeper the sorrow, the greater the joy; the heavier the Cross, the weightier the Crown. This was written in the Inquisition at *Malta*, of us

Malta the 11*th*. Month
of the year 1661.

Katharine Evans,
Sarah Chevers.

From K. E. *for two Friends:*

DEarly beloved Brother in the everlasting Covenant of Light and Life, do I dearly salute and embrace thee, with thy dear Wife, my beloved Sister, and thy dear Children, whom I dearly love in that, which never changeth: My dear and faithful Friends, I am often refreshed in you, when the Light brings you to my remembrance, then do I feel the springs of Love and Life, which ariseth from the pure Fountain of Eternal refreshments, to my joy and comfort, wherein I am made to praise and glorifie my God and your God, who hath redeemed us out of the Chains of darkness, and Kingdom of blackness, into the everlasting brightness, glory, joy, and perfect blessedness for ever, to dwell in the enjoyment of his living presence, as we abide faithful, to Eternity; in his presence is fulness of joy, and at his right hand is pleasure for evermore.

My prayers are night and day without ceasing, to our Heavenly Father, that not one of his begetting may ever turn or slide back, but that every one may press forward towards the Mark of the price of the high calling in Christ Jesus, who is our Life and glory, and so all may come to wear the Crown of Life and Immortality, triumphing in the everlasting Blessedness of the Heavenly Riches and Eternal joy and happiness that's perfect for ever, *Amen*.

Oh! my dear Brother and Sister, we are all children of our Father, begotten in the everlasting Seed of the Promise of Eternal life and salvation. Oh my precious Friends wait patiently with me

always

always in the pure seat of the perfect and pure God, who hath an Eternal Treasure, ful of everlasting Riches, and ready to distribute them to all his dutiful Children: Glory and Praises be given to his blessed Name for ever. Oh my beloved ones! your love to me is written in the Records that cannot be lost. Dear hearts, glorifie our God in my behalf, that ever he counted me worthy to suffer for his Name; I hope to see your faces again (yet once more) with joy and gladness, with my dear yoke-fellow in the Lord's Work, before we go hence, and be no more seen. So in the tender bowels of pure Love, do I take my leave of you at this time. The everlasting peace and blessedness be upon you, and upon the whole *Israel* of God, *Amen*.

Dearly salute us to all Friends.

This was written in the Inquisition at *Malta*, in the 11*th*. Month of the year 1661. *Katharine Evans.*

There was another Letter (and Paper) which was intercepted; but I have it not here with me, it being sent home from Legorn. Yet here followeth more of their Writings to Friends, and to my own particular, which at several times I received from them, unknown to the Oppressors.

A Copy of a Letter that I was moved to write the next day after I came to the Island and City, and communicated to their hands.

DEar Lambs, peace be unto you, *Amen*.

Now seeing that the everlasting God and Father of all truth,

truth, hath in his tender love, and Fatherly mercy, and bowels of compaſſion (through the trials of manifold ſufferings and temptations) hitherto, even to this day, upheld and preſerved you in the innocency, and its teſtimony againſt the contrary; although ſometimes (I know that) you have taſted the ſentence of death in your ſelves, and even (as it were) ready to deſpair of life; yet in the living teſtimony of innocency, in the anſwer of a good Conſcience, I *Daniel* bear you record, (in the Covenant of Life) the ſame remaineth with you, and you are in it a good ſweet ſavour to the Lord, and his Eternal Truth and People. Oh! bleſſed for ever be his Name, yea and my very heart and life bleſſeth and magnifieth the Lord on your behalf.

Wherefore my dear Friends, be faithful, full of Faith, and the living, inviſible God of Peace is with you, and will not forſake you, ſeeing it is ſo, and much more you know which might be declared.

Oh! I am moved in the Bowels of my Father's love, as one with you (in trials, and in the exerciſe of manifold temptations) to ſtir up your pure and innocent minds by way of remembrance, and alſo to beſeech you to take heed to the Teſtimony of Life that's undefiled, and manifeſt in you, and to dwell in the ſame which retains the joy and comfort of the Lord, and his peace, which you know is not of the World; and ſo to watch and beware of the Enemy that is near to tempt to make ſhipwrack of Faith and a good Conſcience, and to deſpair, and ſo to betray not only your own innocent long-ſufferings, but alſo the Teſtimony of the Lord God of our Life, for which you have ſo long ſuffered, and by the pure Divine virtue of the ſame have you been to this day preſerved; ſo that the Lord (who is, and will be your reward) hath not been wanting to you on his part. Oh faint not, but lift up your heads, and be faithful ſtill, as I am not otherwiſe perſwaded concerning you; and I am well perſwaded, that in his own Covenant and Way deliverance will come to the Seed, and ye know, if the ſame come not in his own Covenant of Truth, in the Light of his Countenance, it cannot be well; but your nay (you know) is to be nay, and ſo to ſtand in the Truth, againſt the contrary, whatſoever our God permits unreaſonable men to inflict upon the outward or viſible body; and the ſame alſo will

work for his glory, and also for the good and eternal peace of his innocent suffering Lambs notwithstanding.

Your tender Brother *D. B.*

AND when this, with other Papers I had through not a little difficulty communicated to their hands, over the heads of our Enemies, I was moved to speak my Message as from the Lord of Life to them after I had offered up my body, and to lay down my life for these poor innocents, my dear friends, and so with my voice I saluted them in the Lord's Truth, as they stood at the prison-Grates with these words in the behalf of the general Assembly of the Saints in Light, to wit, *The whole Body of God's Elect, right dearly, ownes your Testimony, and you are a sweet savour unto the Lord and his people*: And forasmuch as one of these poor afflicted Lambs replied, and said on this wise, as if it was a trouble to them that they could not be more serviceable. Then my heart being melted, and my bowels of pity, mercy and compassion, being moved, I said, That it was a wonderful mercy of the Lord, in as much as they were preserved in their own measure of Truth and pure innocency, for which my heart praised the Lord for what mine eye saw, which right dearly affected my heart, and we were well refreshed at that season, in the sweet presence of our living God, albeit our bodies were at a distance, but so as we could behold each others faces through the Prison bars of Iron, in the Inquisition.

Now for so much as in the Wisdom of God it is seen meet that the fore mentioned and following Writings which came from their hands, might appear to publike view, that thereby every Member of the one Body may have a right understanding, and not onely so, but also a sensible feeling not onely of the trials and sufferings in part of these innocent Lambs, but also of the consolations of each other, as fellow-Members of the infinite Body of which

which Christ Jesus the Lord is both King and Head, in whom be endless dominion and pure glory, and eternal salvation, *Amen*.

And so I being as it were constrained to publish the acceptable Words, that sound and savor of pure innocency and clear truth, for the Elect's sake, in the same Love and Life I am the more free hereunto, even as a Child, that differs but little from a servant, as I am in the Father's Love, Power and Grace of Life, fitted to serve the undefiled Life of the least in the Kingdom of Blessedness, and to administer comfort or what else I have received from the Eternal Fountain or Fulness, for the use or service of either Body, Mind, Soul or Spirit, of my own Flesh or Family, seeing no man ever hated his own Flesh, and he is worse than an Infidel that provideth not for his own Family, especially them of his own House.

This is a sweet Salutation to God's Elect Church *in* England *and* Ireland.

RIght dear, precious and Heavenly ones, whose Beauty shineth bright, and at whose Name the hearts of the Heathen do tremble: We who through the everlasting Mercies of our God, are Members of the same Body, and are held in strait Captivity, and hard Bondage, for witnessing forth the same Testimony and Covenant of pure Light, Life and Truth of our God, with you dear and faithful ones indeed, We here in the same Covenant of pure Love, and Bowels of tenderness, do dearly salute and embrace you all, glorifying and praising our Eternal Father for you all, who hath counted us worthy to partake of the fellowship and sufferings for the Bodies sake, with you in tribulations, fiery trials, manifold temptations, fastings, watchings, heats and colds, and cruel threatning and persecutions, perils by Sea, and perils by Land, standing in jeopardy of our lives year after year, and looking every hour, day and night, for many

Weeks together, when we ſhould be brought out to Execution, but though Proclamation was made, and they came up to the very Gate with a Drum and Muſquets, to fetch us out to deſtroy us, yet the Lord God of everlaſting ſtrength, who in the deepeſt of all dangers, and greateſt extremity, when all hopes were paſt, did but blow upon them with the breath of his noſtrils, and they did flye as duſt before the Wind; for which we do entreat all Friends to glorifie our God on our behalf; for never did the Lord our God work greater deliverance for any, than he hath done for us from time to time, who are the leaſt and weakeſt for what we know, that ever the Lord our God ſent forth in ſo great & weighty a Work; but all things are poſſible with him, who made and created all things; it is he alone which carrieth on his own work by his own mighty Power, and the glory ſhal be his own for evermore, *Amen.*

Oh our dearly beloved Friends, did you know but the third part of the afflictions the Lord our God hath carried us through, you would ſay, The Lord hath wrought as great a Miracle in our preſervation, as ever he did in raiſing *Lazarus* out of the Grave: And in the greateſt of our afflictions we could not ſay in our hearts, Father, would thou hadſt not brought us here, but cryed mightily to our God for power to carry us through whatſoever ſhould be inflicted upon us, that the Truth of our God might not ſuffer through our weakneſs: And the Lord did hear us, and anſwered us in righteouſneſs, and carried us on with all boldneſs, and made our fore-heads as Flint, and our Brows as Braſs, in the faces of our Enemies; that whenſoever we were brought forth upon trial, all fear was taken away, that we ſtood as Iron-Gates, and Caſtle-Walls in the faces of our Enemies, ſo that they ſaid, *we would fain be burned*; but we anſwered, No, we would not willingly be burned; but if our Heavenly Father doth call us to ſuffer in that kind for his Name ſake, he will give us power to go through it; and we have great cauſe to believe it; for our Lord God never called us to do any ſervice for him, but he gave us power, and made way for his own Work; glory and praiſe be to his holy Name for ever.

Dearly beloved friends, marvel not why *Iſrael* is not gathered in all this time; it is not for want of labour, nor travel, nor grief, nor

nor pain, fasting, nor mourning, nor weeping, nor love to their souls; but it is because of the great oppression: For here are a willing people, but they dare not until the Lord make way for them. Truly Friends, we have not been idle since we saw your faces, nor have we had much ease to the flesh, but do travel night and day for *Sion's* prosperity and perfect joy, and for the reparation of *Jerusalem*, and her pure praise; though our sorrows are deep, and our afflictions grievous; yet we do wait with patience to reap the peaceable fruits of righteousness, and enjoy the benefit of our uprightness; Praises be to our God for ever, he hath kept us by his power and holiness, that our Enemies have not one jot or tittle against us, but for the Truth of our God, and that we could not join with them; so they would not suffer us to have one line of refreshment, but stript us out of all, so that we could not expect one drop of mercy, favour nor affection, but what our Heavenly Father did distil upon us from his living presence, and work for us by the operation of his own Arm of strength and power. But dear Friends, though a long Winter, and many sharp and terrible storms have past over our heads, so that we cannot express our sorrows; so likewise we cannot declare our joys. Oh! in the midst of all our afflictions, our God did draw nigh unto us, and did speak comfortably unto us with many sweet and precious promises, and did never suffer his faithfulness to fail us, nor was he wanting unto us in Visions and Revelations. Oh how doth he appear in his glory, beauty and brightness, so that our souls are ravished and wrapped up with his living presence and glory many times, so that we do not dare to look out at our long-sufferings nor trials, but do press forwards towards the fulness of joy and blessedness which our Eternal Father hath prepared for all them that love him, and walk in obedience to him, and we know, the deeper our sorrow is, the greater our joy shall be, and the heavier our Cross, the weightier our Crown, as we abide faithful: And we do believe, that neither Principalities nor Powers, nor sufferings, nor imprisonment, nor persecution, nor life nor death, shall be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, *Amen.*

Dearly beloved Friends, though our bodies are bolted up in the Rocks and Caves of the Earth, yet our spirits (you know) none

can

can limit nor confine to any place. And we do behold your order and ſteadfaſtneſs of your faith and labour of love, and are daily refreſhed in all the faithful-hearted. Oh dear hearts! the remembrance of the leaſt of you is precious. Oh! the Rivers of tears that have diſtilled from our eyes, whilſt we do think upon you, for joy, becauſe of your growth and flouriſhing in the Truth. Oh! you are Virgins indeed, who have Oyl in your Veſſels, and your Lamps burning, and are cloathed with the long white Robes of Righteouſneſs, and are adorned with the Ornaments of pure Beauty and glorious brightneſs (abundance of you) to our joy and comfort: And we do pray night and day, That every Babe of our Heavenly Father's begetting may proſper, even as we deſire our own ſouls ſhould proſper; and that every one may be kept out of incumbrances, and uſe the World as if they uſed it not; that every one's mind, ſpirit, heart and ſoul, may be exerciſed in the Eternal, by the Power of God, out of the earthly, out of the viſible, out of the carnal and periſhing things of this life, (ſo as to truſt in it) into the heavenly, into the ſpiritual, into the inviſible, into that which never changeth, fadeth, nor waxeth old; where every one may dwell in the enjoyment of the preſence of the Lord, for in the preſence of the Lord is fulneſs of joy, and at his right hand is pleaſure for evermore. Oh! that every one may be emptied of your ſelves, and unbottomed of your ſelves, that you may build wholly upon the ſure foundation, and be anchored ſo faſt upon the Rock of Ages, that neither the ſwelling Seas, nor the foaming Waves, nor ſtormy Winds, though they beat vehemently, may ever be able to remove you. Oh dear Brethren! in the life and power you may feel the iſſues of Love and Life, which ſtream as a River to every ſoul of you, from the hearts of us that are wholly joined to the Fountain; Glory and everlaſting praiſes be given to his holy Name. Our whole ſouls, ſpirits, hearts and minds, are given up to ſerve the Lord in whatſoever he requireth of us, as he ſhall make it manifeſt unto us. And we do bleſſe his Name for ever, that he hath found us worthy of ſo high a calling, as to bind Kings in chains, and Nobles in fetters of Iron. Our prayers are continually for the advancement of the Goſpel of the Lord Jeſus throughout the whole Earth, for the gathering of the Seed of the Elect of God, and for the raiſing of it up over

the

the Seed of the Serpent, in power and great glory, to bear rule, and to have dominion over the whole World, that the Kingdoms of this World may become the Kingdoms of our Lord Jesus, that he may rule in his Princely Power, and reign in his Kingly Majesty, whose Right it is; that the knowledge of the Lord may cover the Earth, as the Water covereth the Sea; that all the Children of the Lord may be taught of the Lord, and be established in Righteousness; that so the Mourners in *Sion* may rejoice; and the heavy hearted in *Jerusalem* may be right glad: The Lord God of Power hasten it for his own Name's sake, and for his Elect's sake, that lye in captivity under the hands of the dark Powers of the Earth, either spiritual or temporal; *Amen*, *Amen* saith our spirits.

Dear and precious Friends and Brethren, pray for us, that we may finish our Testimony to the glory of God, and to the praise of his holy Name, and to the comfort of all that love his appearing, and to our own eternal salvation, and to the shame and confusion of all that hate the Lord Jesus, and persecute his Truth. So in the pure Vnity of the Covenant of Light, Life, Peace, Love, and everlasting Righteousness, do we take our leaves of you all at this time, hoping and believing we shall see your faces once again, before we go hence, and be no more seen. Dear Friends, pray for us.

Though we were in many streights and hardships by reason of the oppression; yet whilst our minds were staid upon the Fountain, we saw no want; but our tender Father, whose heavenly eye was ever over us, saw our necessities, sent his right dear and precious Servant, and just and faithful Steward, *Daniel Baker*, to administer to our necessities both spiritual and temporal; he came not in his own time, will nor strength, but in the Will and time, Strength and Power of the Almighty God, at whose presence the Mountains were removed, the tall Cedars were made to bow, the strong Oaks to stoop. Oh wonderful! He went to the Lord Inquisitor, (the Popes Deputy) to demand our lawful Liberty, which would not be granted, unless he and we would write to *Messana*, or *Legorn*, to some *English* Merchant to be engaged for four thousand Dollers: Which Proposition being out of the Covenant of Light we durst not stoop to it; but our dear Brother in Christ Jesus offered his body for our liberty, but it would

would not be granted; nothing would serve but one to engage for four thousand Dollers to be paid, if ever we come into these parts again. Then in obedience to the Lord he offered up his Life for our Freedom, but all would not serve, the Will of our God be done.

Oh dear Friends! greater Love was never heard of, than for a man to lay down his Life for his Friend: Oh! it is worthy to be recorded in remembrance of him for ever; here he came up and down to administer to us with his Life in his hand, time after time. So the Lord God of Power reward him double into his bosome for ever. Oh how did he refresh our souls, spirits, minds and bodies through great tryals, which is never to be forgotten.

Written in the Inquisition at *Malta*, in the 11*th*. *Month* of the year 1661. By us

Katharine Evans,
Sarah Chevers.

Who have suffered for the living testimony of Jesus, and his pure Innocency, in Bonds, tryals and tribulations, more than three years, to this day.

A *short Relation of some more of their exceeding great Tryals and Temptations.*

NOw in short time after we were taken Prisoners, we were stung with Flyes called *Muskatoes*, in our faces and our heads, as we lay in our Beds, that were swollen as if we had the small-Pox, so that all people were afraid of us, save the *English* Consul; they thought we had been unclean persons, so that a Fryar told *Sarah* he saw an

an evil spirit in her face, which was a great trial; they could not sleep in their beds in the house, they were so tormented & we were told, that they had seen them that did pray and preach every day were burnt for Witches in a short time; and they would keep us to see our lives and conversations, and so they have: And glory be to our God, they cannot lay guilt to our charge, but are made to confess the truth.

In a few days after we were there, in a Vision, in the night, the Lord appeared unto me, and shewed me, that round about us, and above and beneath us, there were many Magicians of *Ægypt*; and the Lord smote me, and said unto me, *The Devil hath desired to winnow you as Wheat; but pray that your faith fail not.* And the sight was very dreadful and terrible; and the voice of the Lord did awaked me with much trembling and amazement, and a great War for the space of twelve hours, before I could get the victory; and we did witness but little ease to the flesh night nor day. We went in obedience to the Lord to one of their Tower-Houses in time of their Worship, and stood trembling in the midst of them; and I was made to turn my back to the high Altar, and kneel down, and lift up my voice in prayer unto the Lord, and he that was saying Service, drew off his Surplice, and kneeled a little beside us till I had done; and he reacht forth his hand to us, to come to him, and offered me a token; and the Lord shewed me it was the Mark of the Beast: And I refused it; and he put it into *Sarah*'s hand, and she gave it him again, and shewed him her Purse, that she had to give, if any had need. And he asked if we were *Calvinists* or *Lutherans*? And we said, Nay And he asked if we would go to *Rome* to the Pope? But we denied. And he asked if we were *Catholicks*? And we told him, We were true Christians, the servants of the living God. And many of them were amazed, and came round about us; We having but little of their Tongue, gave our Testimony (for the Lord) in words and signs, as well as we could, and they were made subject to the Power at that present, praises be given to our God, and we departed in peace.

And since that, the Lord laid such a heavy burthen upon us, that we did question what he would do with us, before we knew the mind of God in it. And upon a set-day they had a great

Meeting to take their holy Sacrament, (as they call it) in a high place; but we knew nothing of it, nor where it was, but what the Lord revealed to us. And we were made to go in, and ſtand in the midſt; and there were many lights in divers places, and many Chriſts, as they call them, and much coſtlineſs and abominations of the Earth; they had ſo many ſorts of holy Garments (as they call them) of ſo many colours, that it would make one wonder how the Devil did invent it. And there we were made to ſtand in the midſt for the ſpace of three parts of an hour, as near as I can judge, in great power, trembling and quaking, and bitter mourning, ſo that they were all amazed, and ſome removed further for fear, but knew not what to do; for I never did witneſſe ſuch an Earthquake. In the end one came ſoberly, and ſpake to us to go forth; and we went in the Lord's time, and ſate at the door trembling and mourning, to the aſtoniſhment of them; and being ſo overcome with their abominations, we went along the ſtreet reeling to and fro, and ſtaggering like drunken men, ſo that we were a wound to all that ſaw us: It was the wonderful Power of God that made way for us to go forth to them, and kept us. They have uſed all the Craft they have day and night to Inchant us as the Lord hath made it known unto us, Glory and prayſes bee to his everlaſting Name for ever more. We know that there is no Inchantment againſt *Jacob*, nor divination againſt *Iſrael*.

Dearly beloved friends, Wee dearly ſalute you all in the inuiſable life of our God, who is our life, our peace, our ſtay and ſtrength; under whoſe ſhaddow wee are Refreſhed, praiſes, glory and honour be given unto his powerfull name of all his for ever.

Truly friends, we are not able to declare the large mercies of our God vouchſafed unto us from time to time, his horn is our ſtrength, and his Name our ſtrong Tower in all our troubles, temptations, trials and ſufferings; he is a God at hand, and not afar off, and doth make us ſenſible before hand, by Viſions and Revelations, what is coming upon us; and doth arm us with his own Armour, and makes us as bold as Lyons; for we fear not the face of man, becauſe we know we ſhall not ſuffer any thing but what ſhall make for the glory of our God; but truly we had fainted long ago, had not the Lord upheld us by his free Spirit; but we know the Lord taketh care of the leaſt of them that truſt him:

him: Praiſes be unto him for ever. Dear Friends, though we be abſent in body, yet we are preſent in ſpirit, and do feel you in that which cannot be ſeparated, as we abide faithful, and are much refreſhed in you; and the remembrance of you is precious unto us: Oh! that all our Friends could priſe the company and the ſight of each others faces. We do not want the company of Fryars, Jeſuits and Magiſtrates, nor great women. Here are ſome that have breathings after life, but they dare not ſhew it, for the ſame thing that was, is; they will not enter in themſelves, nor ſuffer them that would.

The Lord Inquiſitor ſent to us, that if we would (being we are good Women) we ſhould go into the Nunnery among the holy Women; and be maintained as long as we live, in regard we have denied the World, and all we have. And the Fryar told us, if we would come to their Maſſe-houſe and receive their holy Sacrament, we ſhould be the moſt eminent Catholicks in all *Malta*; but we denied them in the Name of the Lord, and all their dead foppery which they have invented. Here we are kept under the Inquiſition, as they ſay, till they have Orders from the Pope of *Rome* what they ſhould do with us.

We beſeech you all, faithful Friends, pray for us, for great are our trials: Did you but know the abominations that the Devil hath invented here, you would think it were tryal enough: But here we have cruel mockings; and the ſame contradictions, trials and temptations that ever the ſervants of the Lord had, & Chriſt himſelf: It is the wonderful Power of God that we are preſerved till this time, for all the whole Iſland are Papiſts, and given up to Idolatry. We are deſpiſed of all people, and abhorred of all Nations; and becauſe they cannot have any juſt thing againſt us, they do invent lyes againſt us; but the Lord is on our ſide, for elſe the Enemy would ſoon deſtroy us; for great is their rage; and we have continual War with them night and day we feel; behold their threatnings and cruelty is more than our tongues can expreſs: Great is the love of our God, for he doth refreſh us with the ſweet drops of his mercy, and doth water us every moment with the everlaſting ſprings of his Love, or elſe we had fainted long ago.

Oh! let all who know the Lord, praise and glorifie his holy Name for ever and ever, *Amen*. Dear Friends Friends, farewel in the Lord.

From us who are in outward Bonds in the City of *Malta*, for the Testimony of Jesus, glory be to his Name for ever, who hath counted us worthy. We are in health at present, blessed be God.

Katharine Evan.
Sarah Chevers.

Several other Writings to D.B. *whilest he was in* MALTA.

OH thou tender-hearted one, whom our God and our Eternal Father hath sent to relieve us his poor innocent Lambs, in hard bondage, and deep captivity, which thou art an eye-witness of; none can receive or discern it, but those that do see it: But our Heavenly Father, who hath respect to the rest of them that believe in his Name, hath sent thee to be an eye-witness in some measure, of what we have undergone. Oh my dear, precious and endeared one! thou meek Lamb, thou innocent Dove, who dost bear the likeness, beauty and brightness of that unspotted one that is come in the Volume of the Book to do the Will of God: We can give in our Testimony for thee, that thou camest here in the Power and Authority of the Most High, to which the tall Cedars were made to bow, and the strong Oaks to bend, praises, praises be given to our everlasting God for evermore. Oh my dearly beloved Brother, thy beauty shineth indeed, thou art all glorious within and without; thy Garments are perfumed with all delightsome scents; We smell the sweet odours thereof, and do feel the fulness of Love and Life which runs from thy tender heart day and night to us, and in the same unity of Love do our hearts stream forth to thee, and thou knowest full well: Oh how

hath

have our hearts and bowels been melted for thee; our heads and eyes have run with tears, and our ſouls have been poured forth to our Heavenly Father for thy preſervation, and we do truly labor to ſee thy face before thou comeſt: Glory and praiſes be given to our Eternal Lord God, *Amen* ſaith our ſpirits; that he doth vouchſafe us ſo great a mercy as to behold the face of ſo precious a Friend: We do beſeech God to moderate us with his Eternal Spirit, that we may always be mindful of his mercies, and never to let his benefits ſlip out of our minds. We have been near death many times, when we had none to come near us, but thoſe that preacht death and deſtruction to us; I have lain twelve dayes, or more, in a faſt, in ſtrong travel night and day, that my dearly beloved Yoke-Mate would have been glad if the Lord would have taken me out of the body, becauſe of my weak affliction.

Then the Engliſh Fryar which was here, came up and down to us, and down to us, and would ſay to my Friend, *She is ready to depart; ſend for me, and take notice what torment ſhe will be in; a thouſand Devils will be about her, to fetch her ſoul to Hell, becauſe ſhe will not be a Catholick.* And after we were parted, we were called to faſt, ſo that my Friend was ſo weak, that ſhe put on ſuch linnen upon her head, as ſhe thought to lie in her Grave: We did eat but little in a Month together, when our money was almoſt done, till we did know the mind of the Lord what to do. Then they did run to and fro like mad men, and the Fryars did come, and ſay, The Inquiſitor ſent them to tell us, we might have any thing we would eat; and they did ſay, it was not poſſible that ever creatures could live with ſo little meat for ſo long a time together. They bring us meat, and ſay, the Engliſh Conſul did ſend it. It was a glorious Faſt indeed, the Lord did appear wonderfully in it, praiſes be given to him for ever, *Amen.*

We were very weak, becauſe the power did work ſo ſtrongly; I had no manner of food in my body five or ſix days together; We did lie in clothes, becauſe we had no ſtrength to put them off, nor one to make our bed: Then we did ſpeak to the Fryar, that we might come together, but he ſaid they had no ſuch order; if we would have a Phyſician, we might. And there we lay, none knowing from morning to morning whether we were dead or alive. We were kept quiet and ſtill till the Lord's

time

time was come; they brought many things for us to eat: Then the Lord ſaid, *Thou mayeſt take as freely as if thou hadſt laboured for it with thy hands; I will ſanctifie it to thee through the Croſs.* And he ſaid unto *Sarah, She ſhould eat of the fruit of her hands, and be bleſſed.* And we did eat, and were refreſhed, and glorified the Lord; We did cry mightily unto the Lord night and day, that we might not eat nor drink to offend him, we would rather dye. The Lord was well pleaſed with our Sacrifice, and did encreaſe our ſtrength, and adminiſtred comfort to us; honor and glory be to his bleſſed Name for ever. In the loweſt of all our conditions, we were kept a top of all the Mountains, ſo that they could not make us ſhrink or bow one jot or tittle to any of their Precepts or Commands. Yet the Fryars have commanded us in the Name of their God to kneel with them in prayer.

The time is too little for me to diſcloſe the twentieth part of the terrible trials; but whenſoever we were brought upon any tryal, the Lord did take away all fear from us, and multiplied our ſtrength, and gave us power and boldneſs to plead for the truth of the Lord Jeſus, and Wiſdom of Words to ſtop the mouths of the gain-ſayers, that they would be made to ſay we ſpake truth, they could never ſay otherwiſe: But they would ſay, We had not the true faith, but we had all virtues. Oh dear heart! if it be our Eternal Father's good pleaſure to carry thee away without us, we do beſeech our Heavenly Father to bleſs, and to give thee a proſperous return, and to feed thee with the fulneſs of the bleſſing of the powerful Goſpel of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt. *Amen.* And we do believe we ſhall not want thy prayers, nor the prayers of all the faithful, that we may keep faithful to the end, ſo that our God may be glorified, his Church and People may be refreſhed and rejoiced, and we may receive our Reward with the reſt of the Lord's Lambs.

Our Life is with thee, for oh! thou art full of Love, thou tender-hearted one, who hath offered up thy ſanctified body, and purified life, in obedience to the Lord, for us poor afflicted lambs with thee, and companions in tribulations, trials and perſecutions, and in perils at Sea, and perils by Land. Oh thou precious Lamb of God, great is thy Reward in Heaven, great will be the Well-ſpring of joy that will ariſe in thee, in thy Journey: Oh

thou

thou happy one indeed! vvhom the Lord our God hath made choice of amongſt his faithful Flock, and endued with ſo much povver to come into ſuch a place as this, not the like in all *Europe* by their own report, and all others, and to ſtop the mouths of Lyons, and to trample upon the heads of Serpents, Scorpions and Vipers of the Earth, and they could not hurt thee; their ſtings are taken out of their heads, and out of their tails, glory, honor and everlaſting praiſes be given to our God for evermore, of all that know him; for he is worthy.

And the Lord bleſs thee and thine for ever *Amen*; and encreaſe thy ſtrength, and multiply thee abundantly in every good gift and Grace, and proſper all thy undertakings, that thou mayeſt be approved for ever before the King of Saints, in the General Aſſembly of the Moſt High, and ſtand before the Throne of his Majeſty vvith joy unſpeakable, and full of glory, *Amen*; *Amen* ſaith our ſpirits.

Dearly beloved, pray for us, that we fall not, nor fail, whereby our Enemies may have any advantage to re/oice, and ſay, We ſerved a God that could not ſerve us, and called upon a God that could not deliver us; as if we were like them, to call upon ſtocks, ſtones, pictures, and painted Walls, and dead things, that cannot ſee, hear nor ſpeak through their throats. We do beſeech thee to tell all our dear Friends, Fathers and Elders, the Pillars of the ſpiritual Building, with all the reſt of our Chriſtian Brethren, that we do deſire their Prayers; for we have need of them.

OH! How ſtrong and powerful's our KING
To all that do believe in him?
He doth preſerve them from the Snare
And teeth of thoſe that would them tear,
We that are ſufferers for the Seed,
Our Hearts are wounded, and do bleed,
To ſee th' Oppreſſion and Cruelty
Of men, that do thy Truth deny.
In Dungeons ſtrong, and Dungeons deep,
To God alone we cry and weep:
Our ſorrows none can read nor learn,
But thoſe that have paſt through the ſame.

But

But he whose Beauty shineth bright,
Turneth darknesse into Light;
Maketh Cedars to bow, and Oaks to bend
To him that's sent to the same end.
He is a Fountain pure and clear,
His Chrystal Streams runs far and near,
To cleanse all those which come to him,
For to be healed of their sin.
All them that do patiently abide,
And never swerve nor go aside;
The Lord will them deliver out of all
Captivity, Bondage and Thrall.

LEt *E.C.* know, That his Exhortations I do dearly embrace, and do witness it to be an Eternal Truth. I have had large experience of it, the Lord hath carried me on in much difficult Service, so that many times the way hath been stopt up, that to the eye of Reason I could not have a way made both by Sea and Land: Oh! if thou didst but know what experience I had of the mighty hand of the Lord in making a way, thou wouldst wonder. Once my way was stopt, and my persecution was so hot, that I sate in a Field all night to wait upon the Lord to make way for me to do the Work he laid upon me: I could not get lodging for money in Town nor City; it was at *Salisbury*: where I was whipt in the Market. And the next morning I went through the City by the Watchmen, and they took no notice of me. Whereseever the Lord did send me, into what Land or City, or place soever, if they did put me out never so oft, he would make me go till I got victory; save in the *Isle of Man*, there was a Souldier came to my bed side with a naked Sword, and took me by the Arm, and hal'd me out of the Bed at the tenth hour of the night, and carried me on Ship-board: When I put on my clothes I did not dare to rise. That place lies upon me yet; and I have motions to *Edenburgh* in *Scotland*, I was never there, the Lord did make me to do him service to almost all the mighty men in *England* and *Ireland*; insomuch that I cryed oft to my God, saying, *Lord! What wilt thou do with me that am so foolish, to go to such wise men! If I were wise, I did not care if thou didst carry me to the end of*

the

the Earth. The Lord ſaid, the fooliſh things muſt confound the wiſe; and he would carry me before the mightieſt men in all the Earth, to bear his Name before them, and I ſhould have victory whereſoever I went: And I do believe the Lord, and we both are made willing to wait the Lord's time, which is a time of peace and joy, ſafety and happineſs. And we do bleſs, laud, praiſe and magnifie his holy Name, that he ſent ſo heavenly a Meſſenger to relieve, ſtrengthen, comfort and refreſh us in our great neceſſity, which is a mercy beyond expreſſion; all Friends that do underſtand it, will ſay ſo; Glory and everlaſting praiſes, honor, power and dominion be given to our Eternal Lord God, for evermore, of us, and all that know him, *Amen, Amen* ſaith our ſpirit.

Oh true and faithful Brother, into the Arms of everlaſting power and holineſs, ſtrength and mightineſs, purity and righteouſneſs, do we commit thee, to be kept and preſerved, and proſperouſly carried on in thy Journey: The powerful bleſſing, peace, joy and happineſs of the Majeſty of the Moſt High God go along with thee, to preſerve, and protect thee for ever, *Amen, Amen.*

Pray for us dear heart, that we may receive ſtrength to overcome, that we may ſing the ſong of *Moſes* and the Lamb, and the redeemed of the Lord, *Amen.*

Dear heart, it is hard for us to part with thee; thou wilt feel it.

The Will of our Eternal Father be done; in the pure unity of the bleſſed Spirit of Light, Life, Joy, Peace and everlaſting Glory, do we here take our leave of thee at this time, hoping to ſee thy face again with joy in our Lord's time.

O dear heart! our hearts, ſouls, ſpirits, and our whole lives goeth along with thee.

The pure peace of our God reſt upon thee, *Amen.*

Dearly ſalute us to all Friends, for they are dear and precious to us indeed.

Farewell, farewell dear heart, farewell.

Dear heart,

THou haſt cleared thy Conſcience towards us in the ſight of God and man; if here had been many friends, what could have been done more concerning us than thou haſt done? Thou haſt ſtood in great jeopardy ever ſince, and thy life hath been ſought for much; We have felt it, and cryed night and day to our Heavenly Father to preſerve thee, and ſafely deliver thee: Whatſoever we do ſuffer, we deſire the Will of our Heavenly Father to be done in all things, if the Lord doth ſtir up the Earth to help the Woman, it is his own free love; and upon that account we ſhall receive it, and not upon any other.

This they ſpake concerning the money I left with them, and for their neceſſities: And the Lord did appear unto me in a Viſion of the Night, and ſmote me on the Arm, and ſaid, *Look, there is the Pope, he will not hurt thee*; Where he ſtood in the Room, as one forſaken of God and man; this was at the *Engliſh* Conſuls, when there was ſome fear upon me concerning him. Now here is a *Roman* in the Priſon which came hither upon ſome account, he is a a Doctor of Law, and differs from them in many things; but they are all of one ſpirit: He doth conſtantly affirm, that the Pope hath ſent an Order to ſet us free; and he ſaith, they are lyars and falſe blaſphemers if they do ſay the Pope ſent any ſuch Order as they ſpeak of. They do meet every day concerning us, we do feel them; ſome would have it one way, and ſome another, and ſo they cannot agree, becauſe they do act contrary to the Will of God; the Lord ſets it all on fire, and hath burned all they have done theſe three years concerning us. Now where they will look a Reward of their charges, we do not know; the wiſe are taken in their own craftineſs, and the ſubtile in their own ſnare. There have twelve of them ſate in Judgement upon us three years, and ſome have ſtruck hard at our lives, ſo that we have been even at death's door. I have lain very weak three Weeks at a time. There are many for us, as far as they do dare. The Lord ſays, there were two with the Inquiſitor for us, and did plead much with him: I did

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see it in a Night-Vision. The *English* Consul which is dead, was with us two several times after we were in the Inquisition; he said he would lend us five pounds when we did want; but when our money was near done, we were made to rejoice greatly, and could not take any of any one. We did not know the mind of the Lord in it; but had we had money, we had not known the mighty Power of God. Now we are able to trust the Lord where-ever he shall carry us without money. We do question the money in the Consul's hand. It will be hard for him to part with it. Our Life is with thee.

A few Lines to D. B.

O *H our dear and faithful Friend and Brother, begotten of our heavenly Father, right dear and precious in his sight, and beautiful before his presence. Dear heart, we do glorifie our God in our hearts, souls and spirits, who hath called, chosen, and elected thee to come up to the help of him against the Mighty, and hath carryed thee along in so weighty a Work, and hath prospered thee therein, praises be given to his blessed Name for ever, who hath enclosed thee in his Bosom, and Chamber of his everlasting Love, and hath hid thee in his private Pavillion, where them that would hurt thee, cannot find thee, because of the shadowing of his Almightiness, under whose defence thou art kept safe; and he doth carry thee upon the Wings of his Power, so that the Mountains do become plain before thee, which we do see clearly in the Light; Eternal honor and glory be to his Name for ever, who is called, Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, in whom we have fellowship, and unity one with another, and none can hinder.*

Dear heart, we do dearly embrace thy sweet Exhortations, thou being sensible of the instigations of Satan, who hath winnowed us with every bait, winding and twining slights that he hath, Praises be to our God for ever, who hath preserved us, and prevented him.

The Enemies being buſie with their Temptations, to have us enter into their Covenant, thereupon I was moved to write theſe following words, which I communicated to their hands with the former Paper, Viz.

BEhold the Word of Life aroſe in me, ſaying, (this morning) Keep to *Yea* and *Nay*, and I will confirm my Covenant unto thee. Theſe Words were ſpoken to the true Seed that ſhall inherit the Kingdom; the ſame (you know) is but one in Male and Female. And ſo the bleſſing of my Life reſt upon you, and be with you in the ſame, even in that which hath no end, neither fadeth away; yea, and my Spirit ſaith, *Amen*.

Dear Lambs, read within, and be refreſhed, and the God of Life and Peace encreaſe the ſame, and multiply your ſtrength abundantly, *Amen*.

Malta, the 10*th* day of the
11*th*. Month, 1661. *D. B.*

Another Paper from them to my hand.

DEar and precious heart, in the Eternal Covenant of Light and Life of our God do we ſalute thee, and dearly embrace thee. Oh! what hath the Lord made thee unto us far more precious than we are able to expreſs; and great will be thy reward for thy faithfulneſs to the Lord, and thy dear and tender love to us, and thy diligent care of us.

Oh! thou art the Meſſenger we have cried long for, to our Heavenly Father, ſaying, How long, Oh Lord! How long will it be before thou wilt ſend thy Meſſenger, whoſe feet are beautiful, coming upon the Mountains, bringing glad tydings of great joy to us thy poor Captives. Now hath the Lord our God anſwered us at large; Praiſes, praiſes be to his Name for evermore.

Oh!

Oh! how are our ſouls refreſhed, and our ſpirits ſupported, and our hearts comforted, our minds rejoiced, and our bodies ſtrengthened! Thou canſt never do greater ſervice to the Lord our God, than to come into ſuch a place as this is, to offer up thy dear life in ranſoming us: Great was the Power that brought thee; and great is the Power that doth uphold thee, and Mighty is the Strength which doth preſerve thee, and great will be thy Reward. Thy labour of Love we do bear Teſtimony cannot be forgotten, nor thy faith unfeigned put out of remembrance; it is written in the Book of Life for ever, and it will be regiſtred and read in the Houſe of Iſrael Eternally; The mouth of the Lord hath ſpoken it, and he will perform it. Farewell in the Lord. By us

Katharine Evans,
Sarah Chevers.

OH our dearly beloved and precious Friend and Brother, right honorable indeed for ever: We dare not look out at thy departure, becauſe we ſtand in the will of our Maker. The bleſſing of the Almighty be upon thee for ever, and make thee flouriſh in all thy endeavours. Thou art called by the Name of Daniel Baker, *in the midſt of thine Enemies thou art in the hand of thy Maker: And this the Lord hath ſpoken, Where-ever thou doſt come, thy Glaſs ſhall not be broken, until thy Sand be run. Oh! this day is this Propheſie fulfilled in our ſight: When they have done dealing treacherouſly, they ſhall be dealt treacherouſly withall; the Lord doth ſteal in upon them, Praiſes be to his Name.*

Dear heart, ſalute us dearly to thy dear and precious Wife, with all dear Friends, in the Covenant of Grace and Peace. Dear heart, farewell, farewell.

K. E. S. C.

Anoth-

Another Letter from Sarah Chevers, *to friends in* Ireland, *to be read among the aſſemblies of Saints in Light.*

OH! all ye righteous ones, whoſe dwellings are on high, in the fulneſs of beauty, holineſs and glory, whoſe Name and Fame reacheth to the ends of the Earth, to the aſtoniſhment of the Heathen, and the amazement of the ungodly, to the preparation of all Nations to appear before the dreadful preſence of our Lord God Almighty, to be ſtript of all falſe coverings, and to be left without excuſe; Glory and praiſes be to our God for ever *Amen*, who hath made us eye-witneſſes of his mighty Work, and helpers together with you, according to our meaſures, to the chaining down of the Powers of darkneſs, and to the defacing of that painted Harlot, *Myſterie Babylon*, with all her Lovers, to the utter overthrow of Antichriſt, with all his wicked Kingdom, *Amen*.

The day is dawning, the Sun of Righteouſneſs is ariſing over all Nations, for to make a clear ſeparation, to gather in his own Flock, and to ſcatter the proud in the imaginations of their own hearts, to feed the hungry, to heal the ſick, and to bind up the broken hearted, to cloath the naked, to viſit the ſpirits in priſon, and comfort the Mourners in *Sion*, to cauſe the heavy-hearted in *Jeruſalem* to rejoice.

Oh my dear Friends! who are precious in the ſight of our Heavenly Father, partakers of his Divine Nature, living Stones, and holy Aſſemblies, wherein dwelleth the fulneſs of God Almighty's Power and Strength, Riches, Glory, Wiſdom, Counſel, Knowledge and Underſtanding; he is the Rock of Ages, the ſure Foundation, the Ark of the Covenant of the Promiſe of everlaſting bleſſedneſs, *Amen*.

My dear and precious ones, whom my ſoul loveth, my heart delighteth in you, and my ſpirit rejoiceth greatly becauſe of the excellency of God's Almightineſs amongſt you, ſo that you are a dread to the Nations; Kings, Princes, and mighty men of the Earth ſhall bow before the Power of Almighty God, by whom

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we ſtand, and all ſhall be brought under the Foot-ſtool of Chriſt and his Government, and he alone ſhall reign in righteouſneſs, and rule the Nations in Judgement; then ſhall the cry of the poor be heard, and the ſighing of the needy be eaſed, and the yoke of Wickedneſs be broken, and the oppreſſed ſhall be ſet free, the Image of Chriſt reſtored, and the Image of that ſubtile Serpent defaced, deſtroyed, and utterly caſt down for ever, *Amen*, ſo ſaith my Spirit: Glory, honor, laud and praiſe, be given to our Lord God Almighty, for ever, *Amen*.

A ſweet Salutation is this, from the breathing forth of my pure Life, to the ſame Life, in my Spirit, joining in my meaſure, a ſufferer for the Seeds ſake, glory to the Lord, who hath counted me worthy; Farewel, farewel my deer hearts. My dear Yoke-mate *K. E.* dearly ſalutes all Friends.

O ye holy Aſſemblies! whoſe hearts are wholly joined to the Lord, I with you, in the Life & Power of the Almighty God do travel for the raiſing of the Seed, & the gathering in of the loſt ſheep of the Houſe of *Iſrael*. Oh! bleſſed be the day wherein the Lord called me, and counted me worthy to ſuffer for the Seed's ſake: Praiſe, praiſe the Lord for me ye bleſſed of the Lord, in whom the living praiſes are found in the living Fountain of God Almighty, the fulneſs that filleth every empty ſoul, in the Streams of Love, Life, Light, Strength, Riches, Immortality, and Eternal Glory; So Truth, Joy, Peace and everlaſting Bleſſedneſs remain with you all for ever, *Amen*.

My Life is given up for the ſervice of the Lord, Bonds, Chains, Bolts, Irons, double doors, Death it ſelf is too little for the Teſtimony of Jeſus, and for the Word of God; ſo the Seed be gathered, it is but a reaſonable Sacrifice: Bonds and Afflictions betide the Goſpel of Chriſt; *He that will live godly in Chriſt Jeſus, muſt ſuffer Perſecution*, it is an evident token.

My dear Friends, my Light, my Life, my Love hath perfect Union in the Eternal Spirit of the living God, and remains with you all for ever. Fathers, Elders, Pillars, Nurſing-Mothers in *Iſrael*, true *Iſraelites* indeed, in whom is no guile. My dear Salutation, and breathing forth of my Eternal Father's Love is to all the breathing Seed, begotten of the Heavenly Father, Peace, Mercy and Truth be multiplied among you all for ever, *Amen*.

Pray

Pray for us that we may have boldneſs over our Enemies, to fulfil the righteous Will of our Heavenly Father, and be kept faithful in his Will, for ever, *Amen*. Streams of Love and Life floweth from a living Fountain, to you all my dear Friends; Our love remaineth ever with you all, *Amen*.

Preſent this to the hand of L. C.

L. C. *Thou Nurſing-Mother in* Iſrael, *peace be to thee for ever*, Amen. *Thy dear Brother* Daniel Baker, *in the Covenant of Life, in obedience to the Lord, hath viſited us, to the amazement of our Enemies, Glory be to the Lord for ever*, Amen; *He hath been a faithful Steward indeed, worthy to be had in remembrance in the Book of* Iſrael, *for ever*, Amen. *Whatſoever for the Truth we ſuffer, our reward is with us, and our innocent life will clear us*, Amen.

Written by me *Sarah Chevers*, a Priſoner in the Inquiſition, for the clear Teſtimony of the Lord Jeſus: This 11*th*. Month of the year 1661.

NOw after I had received theſe Papers, though not through a little ſtreights and difficulty, with jeopardy of my precious Life, which my God ſweetly through all preſerved, Glory to his Name; my heart was (as it were) overcome with the loving-kindneſs and ſalvation of the living Lord, and in his ſavory Life my mouth was filled with thankſgiving and praiſes to my God; and I ſaid in my heart on this wiſe, Who am I, oh Lord! or what was my Father's Houſe, or what is the Land of my Nativity, that I (a poor afflicted and deſpiſed Worm!) ſhould be raiſed up to ſee and perceive what mine eye, mine eye in thy Eternal Power and pure Life beholds! Oh my God! thou haſt known the innocent travel of my ſoul, which I right well know the ſame is not hid from thee, even from the day of my birth unto this moment, through no ſmall trials and tribulations, and through the exer-

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ciſe of manifold temptations; yet behold, my Life is preſerved at this time: And oh! my heart, my mind, my ſoul my ſpirit, in thy pure, undefiled Life and Virtue, bleſſeth thy Name, thy pure Name, which thy Virgins love and live in, and in the ſame they glorifie thy beloved, and the Wings of thy Majeſty overſhadoweth them, and their delight is under the ſecret ſhadow of thy Almightineſs, bleſſed be thy Glory, bleſſed be thy undefiled Power, bleſſed and magnified be thy pure Wiſdom, and let the ſame be ſo even in the Tabernacles of the juſt for ever. Thou Lamb of Immortality, the Thrones, the Kingdoms, and Eternal Dominions are thine, and over all thy Throne is, and ſhall be exalted, and thy Lambs behold thy glory and thy Majeſty, in this the day of thy terrible and glorious appearance; Wiſdom, Riches, Glory, Power, Might and Dominion everlaſting (with Eternal Salvation) over all, to thy Name, *Amen*, ſaith my Spirit, in the Life which is, was, and for ever ſhall be, the ſame which liveth and abideth for ever, and fadeth not away: In the ſame I commend thy dear, tender Lambs, to be preſerved according to thy unſearchable Wiſdom, and counſel of thine own heart, to thy everlaſting Renown and Glory, and their Eternal comfort and joy, and felicity with thy Saints and Angels in the Light of thy countenance, and in everlaſting remembrance in the powerful and Eternal Kingdom of Immortality, if I be no more in this World, when this body is gone to its place, according to thy Eternal Purpoſe and Decree, in thy Eternal Counſel; ſo be it, ſaith my ſpirit, yea and *Amen* ſaith my ſoul, which bleſſeth and magnifieth thy Eternal Name, inaſmuch as thou haſt ſo far fulfilled thy (living) Word of Propheſie, and not onely ſo, but much more alſo in the deſire of my heart, in the behalf of thy dear, tender, ſuffering, and long-ſuffering Seed of thine own bowels, for which be innumerable Praiſes, Wiſdom, Salvation, Glory and Dominion, to thy holy Name, *Amen*, *Amen*.

MY right dearly and well-beloved Friends of Eternal Life, of the Church of the first-born of the living God, which is the Pillar and ground of Truth, of which Christ Jesus our Lord is the alone and onely Head: Peace be unto you in him, who is arisen in his pure immortal life, and hath brought Life and Immortality to light, through the Word of his Power, and his Eternal Gospel of Peace, which is not hid from us, but it's clearly manifest in us by his coming, who ariseth with healing in his wings: Glory, Dominion, living, endless praises Immortal to his Name, now and for evermore; and let all the upright in heart, with my precious life say, Even so Amen.

Dear suffering, and long-suffering Lambs, ye know, that as I came in the Eternal Love and Peace of Immanuel, God's Lamb, to visit and serve you, and minister to your necessities, the which in the same Life and Peace, and in the integrity and uprightness of heart, and in its pure innocency, my God knoweth, and behold I call your Life that's manifest in you, (in which is our perfect unity as Members of one Body, to bear me record, That I have endeavoured in the good will of my God, to perform the same; and verily, the hand and blessing of Almighty God is with me, and hath blessed me, and so my reward is with me, and my work hath been manifest before me, even in the Light of his Countenance that liveth for ever; and this Scripture is fulfilled in me also, **The Father worketh hitherto, and I work.** So my dear Friends, I have honestly and nakedly before the Lord cleared my Conscience so far concerning you, and on your behalf, which is my reasonable service; and so I leave the same to the living Testimony of the Lord Jesus which you hold, and for which I am satisfied, (and in the behalf of the whole body of God's Elect you have so long suffered) So the Eternal God of Power, Dominion and Glory, of Heaven and Earth, consolate, support and strengthen you, (to the end) that your Testimony may be finished with joy, to his ever living praise to whom onely it belongs, and so my Spirit in the Light and Life Immortal, saith, Even so **Amen.** Farewel dear Lambs, I am your true Brother,

D. B.

Joseph was not made known to his Brethren the first time, though his Bowels earned towards and over them, till at last he could no longer forbear

bear crying out with tears, saying, I am *Joseph* your Brother, *and little* Benjamin *the youngest, he dearly loved you know.*

This 5*th.* day of the Week, and the 30*th.* of the 11*th.* Mo. 1661.

When my face you do not see,
Wait in the Eternal Life, and then remember me.

So farewell, and feel the Well-spring of Life.

This and many other Papers was communicated to each others hands, (which are seen meet not to be added hereunto) with the jeopardy of my life, and what else did attend us; but magnified and for ever blessed be the living Lord and his Goodness, Wisdom and Salvation, who prospered his Work and Workers in his own Life of lasting Righteousness, through and over self, over all that which must dye and go to its place, *Amen.*

DANIEL.

Here followeth somewhat relating to the Travel and Service of D. B. *which he hath freedom to give forth for the Truth's sake, and Friends satisfaction.*

THe intent of the Spirit of the Lord within my heart and mind, stirring me up to write somewhat concerning my travel from my Native Countrey, Kindred and Father's House, being freely given up to serve the Lord, his Truth and People, in the Power and Gospel of God; having no imposition or necessity at all laid upon my Conscience, as from any mortal man, but cer-

certainly it was a pure neceſſity from the living God of Heaven & Earth, many of his faithful ſervants, Meſſengers, ſons & daughters that were, & are as dear & precious to me as my own life, may bear me record on the Lords behalf unto the truth of what I write on this wiſe; & ſurely in the counſel everlaſting, the thing was hid from me then whether ever I ſhould return to my Native Countrey or not. However in the love and favour of God, and in his fear ſet up within my heart, was I given up, with my body alſo offered as a living Sacrifice, which was but my reaſonable ſacrifice, to give a ſound to the Nations afar off, of the mighty day of our God, and his bleſſed Truth, the Light of Jeſus manifeſt in every Conſcience, in which Light we have moſt aſſuredly believed unto ſalvation: And verily the Power and pure Preſence of his Eternal Strength was with me, through many hardſhips, trials and tribulations, the right hand of the hiding of his Power did ſweetly guide, ſtrengthen & ſupport me, even as it did, and doth his Lambs whom he ſo ſends forth as among Wolves, in his Dovelike innocency, harmleſneſs & wiſdom, which is as wiſe, or rather wiſer than the Serpents. And this Scripture have I well witneſſed fulfilled whilſt travelling from one Nation to another people, as my Father did in the ancient days. And on this wiſe, with three more Brethren, ſo freely given up with one conſent in the behalf of the Goſpel everlaſting, that is now preaching again to the Nations, Tongues and Kindreds.

We ſet forward the *16th.* of the third Month, and we ſweetly parted with our right dearly beloved Friends, Brethren, Fathers and near Relations, that were fleſh of our fleſh, and bone of our bone, and from all our outward acquaintance, and Native Countrey; in the Will, Love and Spirit of our God, in the ſame day from *Graveſend* we ſet forth; and at the end of 44. days, we arrived at *Legorn* in *Italy*; where we gave a certain ſound of our innocent ſervice and Meſſage of Salvation; and of its life and bleſſedneſs, coming upon the Nations as a weight either to condemnation or juſtification, as the ſame is received or rejected among them.

And thus as we had opportunity, among the men of our own Nation, the *Jews* and others, we gave a ſound, and the bleſſing of the God of Heaven, and his Preſence was with us; whether the

Nation

Nations of men did bear or forbear, but the Witneſs of God in ſundry was reached, and the ſame anſwered in us. And herein we are ſo far well ſatisfied, whilſt others were hardened, who defied us and our Teſtimony, as their uncircumciſed Fathers always did reſiſt and gain-ſay the truth that ſaves from ſin, and ſo finally from its condemnation.

And it came to paſs after that we had waited upon the Lord to underſtand his good will and pleaſure, he anſwered us in the joy of our hearts, and we received his counſel, and communicated of the ſame to each other's ſatisfaction in the love of God, in which we were wel confirmed to obey the ſame until the death, as the Lord our God might have permitted for his Name's ſake, who then further ordained us to be ſeparated, *viz. John Stubs* and *Henry Fell* to paſs on towards *Alexandria*, and my dear brother and companion, *Richard Scoſtrop*, with me, to paſs *Eaſtward*, to *Smyrna* and *Conſtantinople*, in *Aſia*; and after a little ſeaſon we parted in the goodneſs of God. And when 24. dayes were finiſhed, having (in the mean time) touched a little ſeaſon at the Iſland *Zant*, we arrived at *Smyrna*. But behold it came to paſs, immediately at our coming there was not a little ſtir, together with the evil ſurmizings, and what elſe ariſing up as a flood, with threatnings breathed forth from the Apoſtate Chriſtians, eſpecially men of no ſmall degree (of our own Nation) againſt us, when *Turks*, *Jews*, *Greeks*, *Heathens*, and others, were not altogether ſo evil affected as to let us from the exereiſe of our Conſcience void of offence towards God and man, and ſo to hold forth the example of the harmleſs Life, and unblameable Converſation, in all equitableneſs in Doctrine, Life and Practice, of what we profeſſed in the midſt of them. But oh! how the Chriſtians (by Name) in *Aſia* (who ſhould firſt have received the Word of ſaving-health) how did they defie and reproach not onely us, but our living Teſtimony and Meſſage of Bleſſedneſs, which day by day was ſounded in their ears notwithſtanding, the Lord God lay not what they did againſt us, to their charge, when they have moſt need of Mercy and Peace with God, if happily repentance unto life be witneſſed by them, who know not what they did; yea and my ſpirit is ready to ſay *Amen*, for their ſakes that hated us without a cauſe, as the ſame unbelieving nature did our Lord and Maſter,

whom

whom we love, ſerve and honor in the ſame, and therefore keep his ſayings, which are not grievous to us in that one and the ſelf-ſame Spirit which reproves the World for ſin, in which we worſhip him as the Father, the which guideth into all truth, from all evil, concerning which we were admoniſhed their minds to ſubject to the one, and to avoid and turn from the other, each having their proper effects attending them; as anguiſh, woes, judgements and diſquietments upon the ſoul and conſcience that doth evil; and contrariwiſe, bleſſings, peace, glory, honor, and the goodneſs of God attending the ſoul of man which worketh good, in the Light of the ſame excellent Spirit of God which exerciſeth the Conſcience in temperance and ſobriety, meekneſs, and gentleneſs of Chriſt.

And on this wiſe we beſought the men of our own Nation, together with many more in them parts, that they may become a ſweet ſavour of the pure life of Chriſt and Chriſtianity, indeed and in truth, which tends to anſwer the Witneſs of the Eternal God manifeſt in *Turks*, *Greeks*, *Jews*, *Heathens*, and Apoſtate Chriſtians among the dark Nations, where they have their converſation: Yet I am conſtrained to expreſs ſomewhat of their manner of dealing with us to our good; Wherefore men of reaſonable and honorable underſtanding, may bear with me, to the end that the honeſt-hearted may be informed to beware of a perſecuting Spirit, which is not of God, neither ever was it born of him.

Their threatnings encreaſed daily, and they burthened themſelves exceedingly with us, whoſe deportment and behaviour they were made to confeſs to, as did the Conſul and divers others, which in truth they could not ſay otherwiſe, but that it was temperate, innocent, harmleſs and unblameable in our converſation; Magnified be the Lord, and bleſſed be his Grace of Life, by which we in ſubmiſſion to the ſame were guided herein: But becauſe our Teſtimony was not for, but againſt whatſoever might be ſaid in truth to be evil, unjuſt, or unequitable, (*which is diſhonorable*) therefore were we hated of the high and lofty, to the diſquieting of their own reſt day and night, becauſe they burthened themſelves ſo with the truth and innocency of the Lord's Teſtimony, which our Life held forth among them who received not the ſame in his love, that they might be ſaved not onely from ſin, but alſo from

the

the wrath to come. So they forthwith sent a Message from *Smyrna*, to the great City *Constantinople*, to the King's Embassador of *England*, and besought him to expel us out from among them of *Asia*, that we might not have a being in the extent of their Authority, in visiting them on this wise, as by the annexed Warrant thou that reads the same, may understand.

A Copy of the Warrant which they produced and prosecuted.

WHereas we are informed, that there is lately arrived with the Zant *Frigot, one* Daniel Baker, *with his Companion, commonly called* Quakers, *with intention to come up to this Port; and because we sufficiently have had experience, that the carriage of that sort of people is ridiculous; and is capable to bring dishonor to our Nation, besides other ill-conveniences that may redound to them in particular, and to the* English *in general:*

We therefore will and require you to give a stop to the said Quakers, *from proceeding any further in their journey either to* Constantinople, *or the present Court of the Grand Signior,* (viz. *the Great Emperor of the* Turks) *or to any other place where our Authority extends, shipping them away either directly for* England, *or any other part which they shall chuse to imbarque.*

And we do hereby require all Officers and Members of the Factory, and Masters and Officers of Ships, to be aiding and assisting to you herein: And for so doing, this shall be your Warrant.

For our loving Friend, Anthony Isaacson, *Esquire, Consul for the* English *Nation at* Smyrna; *By his Excellency's command,* Paul Ricoat, *Secretary.*

Given under our Hand and Seal, at our Court at Pare *of* Constantinople, *the 19th. day of* July, (it should be *August*, for we were not in *Asia* in the Month called *July*) 1661. Winchelsea.

And

And forthwith this Warrant was dispatcht with a Messenger from the Embassador's Court at *Constantinople*, to *Smyrna*; and behold, the Merchants of the Earth, and others that could not endure to hear of the sound of Truth, received the same not with little gladness, (poor me! wo and alas for them!) the end of which will not be peace, but contrariwise, wo and misery; and they put the same Warrant in execution, and sent a *Turkish* Janisary, and a *Druger man*, that were Officers under the Consul of the *English* Nation; and they came with *Harmols*, (*viz.* called *Porters*) with *Cain's* Weapons, and fercht us from our Lodging before the Consul; and the man was courteous and moderate, and had his ear open then to what we in the reverence and fear of the Lord then said unto him, which was his honor, who then saw over and beyond that foolish Ceremony of the Hat, neither did he burthen himself with the same, as many unwisely do, to the clouding or veiling of the nobility of a good understanding, which hath a more noble respect to Equity, Justice and Judgement, without respect of persons in them, where it is set up in its proper and peculiar Authority, than to such foolish ceremonies which are below men of Wisdom; yet he desired that we might not take it ill as from him (in his place of Authority) in doing as he was obliged in the prosecution of the Warrant, which summoned all Officers and Members of the Factory, with Masters and Officers of Ships, to be aiding and assisting to surprize and banish two innocent, naked, harmless men, that had neither Bow nor Sword, nor any such like material, or visible Weapon of War to resist evil, as *Paul* and *Barnabas* had not, against whom the hard-hearted *Jews* cryed out with the same voice, *Help men of Israel*, &c. and such like stir there was; and we let the Consul first know at our first coming, that we owned his place of Authority, and were ready to submit to any thing that was just or equitable; and at last in this thing we could not submit without suffering, forasmuch as in the uprightness of our heart, and in the innocency of the same were we come so far to do the Will of God, and to suffer for it, as his hand permitted.

So with many other expressions I cleared my Conscience, as also by Words, Sufferings and Writings, to the whole Nation there; and the Consul seemed to be unwilling to use violence against us

that

that at our departure prayd for them that hated us without a cauſ, knowing not what they did; weſeeing it could not at that ſeaſon be otherwiſe, but what the Lord had permitted them to bring to paſs, not to their juſtification, but as a Judgement among them from the living God, who did not onely diſpence the viſitation of his Love and Salvation day by day among them, but he viſited them alſo with the ſtrokes of his diſpleaſure, even unto death and deſtruction: And ſurely he ſmote and took away of the chiefeſt, and others of them daily. And verily my heart often cryed, and beſought the Lord for them (in ſecret more eſpecially; though I was conſtrained not to ceaſe uttering my voice openly among them, and for them) while they ſought my hurt; as many of them (I know) by the Witneſs of God in them may remember. And ſo we were ſent away as Priſoners, or rather as Lambs drive from the Dens of Lyons, or from the barren Caves of ravening Wolves, whoſe Nature wooried them.

Now we had ſpoken for a paſſage by a *Dutch* ſhip, to have gon from thence to *Conſtantinople*, but before the ſhip departed *Smyrna*, the Warrant came to the Conſul's hands, which thou may ſee came not from either them called *Turks*, *Jews*, *Heathen*, *Greeks* or *Barbarians*, but even from the men of our own Nation. Alas! alas! yea wo and alas for them.

So the Reader may ſee what a-ſtir there hath been in the Region of *Aſia* againſt the appearance of Truth, and its innocency, in plainneſs, to expel and baniſh it, together with its Meſſage and Meſſengers, out of their coaſts or borders; and not to have any entertainment, or at leaſt to come within the extent of their Authority, whatever becomes of them, let them go where they will, *&c.* So as in effect they ſay, We will not have this man, the Light, Truth, Temperance, Innocency, its Life and Wiſdom from above, to rule, or have its preheminence over us in our Conſciences; We will rather chuſe to live in the practice of our own evil hearts and ways; and therefore thus to their own hurt they ſay unto God, *Depart from us, for we deſire not the knowledge of thy ways, and as for the Word of the Lord, we have no delight in it.* Lo they have rejected the Word of the Lord, and what Wiſdom is in them? And ſuch the holy, perfect and upright man ſaw rebel againſt the Job. 21. Job 24. 13

Light, and said, They are of those that rebel against the Light, they know not the wayes thereof, neither abide in the paths thereof.

And so with consent they joined together to banish Truth, its Message, and Messengers of Peace, which provoked them to jealousie that believe not, who scorned us as fools, and what else, not honestly considering, how that God is provoking the Nations to jealousie and wrath with a foolish people, as in the ancient days, *Deut.*22. was prophesied. And such besought our Lord and Master, even Jesus, to depart out of their Coasts or Borders, who loved and fed their Swine upon the Mountains, even the *Gadarenes* besought him to depart, who saith, *He that loveth Father or Mother, or what else, more than me, is not worthy of me*; and Father and Mother, and such Relations, are of more honourable esteem than many Swine. And to his Disciples he also saith (that was dead, and is alive, and liveth for ever) *As they have done unto me, so will they do unto you; if they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you.* These are his faithful and true sayings; *He that receiveth you, receiveth me; and he that receiveth me,*
John 13.20 *receiveth him that sent me;* [mark that:] *Verily, verily I say unto you, Whomsoever receiveth whom I shall send, receiveth me, and him that receiveth me, receiveth him that sent me*, &c. *He that despiseth you, despiseth me; and he that despiseth me, despiseth him that sent me.* And it's to be understood, that such like dealing *J.S.* and *H.F.* our Brethren, found at *Alexandria*, from whom they also were banished.

And on this wise being rejected, despised, banished out of *Asia*, from *Smyrna*, in about eight dayes we arrived at the Island *Zant*, where my dear Brother and Companion in sufferings, and not onely so, but in the Kingdom and patience of Christ, he was visited with sickness nigh unto death, but the Word and Commandment of the Lord ordered me to pass through part of *Italy*, and my face was set towards *Venice*; and we weighed the thing in the fear and counsel of the Lord, and were both given up in one to travel; yet it was so, that the poor Lamb was not capable in body to travel with me, by reason of weakness; and he being fully perswaded and satisfied in his own mind, that I was to pass onward, in the tender Love of our God he did the more constrain

me;

me, I finding some unwillingness to leave him in that condition, which was not a little cross unto me. But in the Heavenly Will and Peace of our God, and joy of the Lord, out of all visibly we parted asunder; and it came to pass, that he laid down his body there in about two days after.

There being a Ship of *Venice* ready, I embarqued on the same, and had a good passage through the Gulf of *Venice*. After three Weeks were finished, was I admitted (together with the Ships company) to receive Product or Admission to come into the City as their manner is; and there I continued about eight days as a sign and wonder among many, and gave somewhat of a sound of the Lord's Day (in truth) among them; and from thence I travelled to *Legorn*, and my face was as if it were set towards *England*, I being alone, as a Mourning-Dove in a desolate Wilderness: Yet it came so to pass, when I arrived at the same Port or City, that the everlasting Love of my God did fill and overcome my heart, and mine eye right dearly affected the same; and verily the living Word and Commandment of my God sounded in mine ear, and mine understanding was quickened in the Spirit of Life from God, so that I was made willing, and not to rebel against the Heavenly Voice, [And what if I testifie, that mine eye saw the Angel of his presence?] which was expresly for me to give up, and pass away from thence, to visit his long suffering Seed of Innocency, shut up in the Inquisition, in the Isle of *Malta*, under the Pope's Authority, and to communicate to their necessities; and verily the sweet promise of the Lord entered and possessed my heart, and my God made my way prosperous, for in the Light of his countenance he had often set these poor, afflicted, long-suffering innocents before my face: Wherefore my body and mind was freely offered up as my reasonable service, to serve his Truth, and the least Member of it; and so to the death of the Cross, whereto I became obedient in uprightness of heart, as if I should never see Kindred or Native Countrey more.

A Vessel of *France* being ready to depart from thence Eastward, I embarqued thereon for the Isle of *Cicilia* to *Mufona*, and from thence to the Isle of *Malta* in a Vessel of the said Island; and in my passage the Vessel did bear in to *Syracuse*, where *Paul* abode three days in his passage to *Rome*, (after he had suffered

abode three days in his passage to *Rome* (after he had suffered shipwrack on *Malta*;) and at *Syracuse* I abode five days, where I gave a sound of the Lord's Truth and Life: And so we immediately sailed from thence, and within 24. hours we arrived at the Island of *Malta*; and within some hours after I came upon the said Island, I had admittance to the Pope's Lord Inquisitor, to whom I delivered my Message in the *Italian* Tongue, on this wise, *I am come to demand the just Liberty of my innocent Friends, the two English women in prison in the Inquisition*: And he asked, if I were related to them as a Husband or Kinsman, and whether I came out of *England* on purpose with that Message. And I answered, I came from *Legorn* for that same end; and he replied at last, They should abide in Prison till they dye, except some *English* Merchants or others that were able, would engage or give obligation for the value of three or four thousand dollers, conditionally, that they should never return again into those parts.

On this wise was his reply divers times, with the Consul and many others, together and asunder, but in the Name and fear of the Lord God I withstood the same unchristian-like demand and cruelty, in the Word, Power and Travel of the Lord in his innocent, suffering Lambs behalf, albeit they daily threatned me with their cruelty and Inquisition of darkness, and followed me to and fro with their Officer and Black-Rod, and the Popes Deputy would have bound me that I should neither speak good nor evil to any one while I was on the Island, as the Consul said, save to him, neither to come to the Prison alone, except the Consul came also with me, or some of his Family at least. But their snares, Bonds and Covenants, in the Name of my God I defied, because the Spirit of Life from the Lord gave me Dominion through sufferings in Spirit, First over their unjust, dark Impositions, yea, and in the same good authority, in the innocency and uprightness of my heart, I travelled through, and over the darkness, over its works, and ceased not to publish the end of my coming, which they would not have known abroad, & the sound of Truth, and its dread and fame struck terror in their hearts, that both high and wise great men together with the Popish Priests and Jesuits, knights them called of the Nobility, of the Pope's Dominion of *Spain* and *France*, and of many Nations; they did not burthen themselves a little with my bodily presence, my clear testimony

ſtimony, and Friends in general, all which they defied and withſtood, as it doth appear by the words of Truth in this Treatiſe.

And thus it comes to paſs among the Nations, becauſe we are not of this world, as our Life and Teſtimony alſo is not for, but againſt the ſames; therefore we marvel not if the world hate us, knowing its birth which is from beneath, earthly and ſenſual, perſecuteth that which is from above, heavenly and ſpiritual, and ſo the Lord hath made me as a burthenſome ſtone among them. My heart bleſſeth his Name that wonderfully preſerved me. Yet ſome of them came to ſee ſomewhat of my innocency.

About 24. dayes I abode upon the ſaid Iſland, they daily continuing their threatnings againſt me as aforeſaid, and many times attempted me to take my paſſage to *Cicilia*, or to ſome parts of *Italy*, to produce the unreaſonable and unchriſtian-like Obligation demanded by them; but in the fear of God I, with my dear friends, withſtood them, and they were freely given up, rather to ſuffer, then to hurt God's truth and people thus to gratifie them, who (as it doth appear) the Spirit of the Lord God of truth rules neither in Pope, nor in any of his Lords, Prieſt or Jeſuits, that exerciſeth ſuch Lordſhip over the innocent, long-ſuffering Heritage of the everlaſting God. The time haſteneth, and behold it cometh to paſs, that the weight of eternal Vengeance is coming over them, which the man of ſin, and his ſons of perdition will not be able to bear: For the doleful cry of the Innocent, it ſighs and groans with tears, hath long uttered its voice, which hath aſcended into the ears of the moſt high, who is higher then the higheſt, yet hath he reſpect unto the needy, to uphold them; yea and to ſuch as are of an upright, contrite, lowly, and trembling heart; What if I ſhould ſay, the God of love and long-ſuffeering dwels in ſuch? and verily their ſacrifice is acceptable in his boſome that liveth for ever; and I am a living witneſs, that the ſweet teſtimony and innocent ſufferings of theſe his long-ſuffering Lambs, is right dear and precious in his eye, which is the light of his countenance; and ſo is is not otherwiſe, but the ſame in oneneſs with his people concerning them.

And ſo in the endleſs Mercy, Bleſſing and Peace of our God we parted, and I came away with the love and peace of my God within my heart, having the anſwer and living teſtimony of a good Conſcience; and in the wiſdom of God brought away theſe their words and writings, which teſtifieth ſomewhat of their ſufferings and faithfulneſs unto the Lord, his truth and people, which I right well know, cannot be ſhut out of the Record of life Eternal, unto which I bear record again, that they have been, and are a ſweet ſavour unto the *Lord* God of faithfulneſs, and ſo their reward, which attends the ſame, is not onely with them, but with all the ſons and daughters of truth and innocency, that are ſo travelling in their long-ſufferings, which are but light and momentary in competition to the Eternal weight of glory which afterwards is to be revealed in the ſame that ſuffered in all generations, even from righteous *Abel*, unto this day of our God, to whom be wiſdom, glory, ſalvation, and everlaſting thankſgivings and dominion, for ever, *Amen*, ſaith my ſoul and ſpirit, even ſo *Amen*.

And it came to paſs in the the third month of the year 1662. alſo after my God had well preſerved me in my paſſage, and in his work and ſervice from *Malta* to diverſe places in *Italy*, till I came to the Straights Mouth (of the Mediter-

Mediterranean Sea) at the place called *Gibraltar*, it was the pleasure of the Lord God to suffer the wind and weather to continue contrary well nigh about 30 daies, in which season I suffered many trials and tribulations in spirit, having little or no rest in the same, because of the Vision and words of the Everlasting which sounded often up to my understanding, even as the roaring of a Lyon, which mine eye saw, and mine ear heard also [in the year 1661. when I was a Prisoner for the pure Word and testimony of God and his Truth, in *Worcester* City Jayl, before I departed *England*] and the place was the high Mountain of *Gibraltar* that stands within the King of *Spains* Dominion, which was the subject of the Vision; and often as I cast mine eye upon the scituation of the place, the pure life and power of God's Eternal presence did arise up in me, in the Word of Life, so that I saw e'early that some great exceeding weighty service for his Name and eternal Truths sake was to be done by me, which was so terrible and dreadful to me, when as I entred into reasoning, so that I was brought down even to the jaws of death in dust and ashes; and as *Jonah* turned his back upon *Niniveh*, the same temptation attended me also, to my wounding, before I could give up; for I fled often from the place to escape with my life from among such an unreasonable and bloody generation, and the Lord would not be intreated to let such a bitter Cup pass unfulfilled, but behold with the sound and stroak of his eternal Word, his Spirit of Life became awakened, quickned and mightily revived in me, in his Wisdom, over all fear of the Nations of men, and the same brake through the snares and bonds of death, and over destruction and the true seed that mourned, cried, *Not my will, but thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven*; and so it was a hard thing to part with little *Isaac* which is received again in the Covenant of promise of Life, and that was offered up which fled so often (but at last was caught in a thicket). When the ships of diverse Nations attempted to pass through; but the God of heaven, whom the wind and sea obeieth, suffered them not, but they knew not what the matter was which was revealed within my heart, as the displeasure of God was against them, to humble them also, as I told them often by words and writings to clear my conscience; albeit they strove, being perplexed in their minds, and attempted often, to wit 7 or 8 times in about 21 daies, and could not pass but about 2 or 3 leagues, and on this wise it happened, it would either prove calm, and then the currant would drive them back into the Streights again sometimes, and otherwhile storms and tempests would scatter them, as a figure of *Pharaoh* and his Hoste of Egyptian darkness, so that the Charet-wheels mine eye saw struck off, so that they drove but heavily, within, and without; and at last I gave out among them, that God had service for me to do at that place, and my life was given up to do his will, if I never saw my Native Country, Kindred, or Fathers house at all any more; and therefore the pleasure of the Lord in his mighty power had made me willing, and also gave me dominion through and over the bonds and snares of death and destruction, as it were to lay down my precious life, that I may take it again, together with the body, which through his righteous judgments he had prepared to perform the good pleasure of his Almightiness, for his Truth and Names sake. Now the heavenly voice was often sounded within my heart on this wise, saying; *O Jerusalem, cut off thine hair*, and furthermore to *gird sackcloth on my loins*, *As in the Prophet* Jeremy, *Chap.* 7. 29. and

and so I became obedient in the singleness and innocency of my heart, unto the God of Heaven, of my life, as a dreadful sign against the Whorish Church of *Rome*, and against all her Heads and Horns throughout the world: And I then signified to the Master of the ship in which I was a passenger, how that I did believe that God would soon give opportunity for the Fleet of ships to pass away after this service of God was performed: & after I had used many perswasions, to the end that he might suffer my body on that wise to be cast among the wicked idolaters, lyars and murtherers, which are like the troubled sea. So the ship-Master let my body *Isaiah* 57.20. be on this wise cast over board from the ship, [God having provided a great Whale to swallow up that which fled from his presence so often] and so it happened, that it was upon one of their called Holy-dayes, or Saints days, namely, the day called *Holy-Thursday*.

So I being cast on dry land, passed through their streets directly, until I came into the Mass-House or Idolater temple, among the Idolaters, where I found the Fryer, or Priest, at the high Altar, down upon his knees, in his white Surplice, adoring of the Host, (which is a *Chalice*, or a piece of bread, which they call the real substance of the body of Christ, after their unclean spirit of darkness hath muttered some words over it, which they call *Consecration:*) and after I had stood a season viewing this Idolatry with the indignation of the Eternal God set up within my heart against the same, I turned my back-part upon the Priest, and his dead God, and dumb Idols, at the high Altar; and in the holy Commandment of life eternal, my face was set towards the people, and I beheld them a certain season in the power of God in which I stood; I saw the multitude of ignorant people upon their knees also, worshipping the dark inventions and imaginations of their sottish leaders, and blind guides, and they know not what; and in the Lord's time (which mine eye had a circumspect heed unto) I then spread forth my arms, and stript off my Vesture, and rent the same from top to bottom, in divers pieces, and cast them from me with indignation. And then I took my Hat off my head, (which was the uppermost covering of the outside of a man) and cast the same under my feet, and stamped upon these things; and the nakedness appeared with the sack-cloath covering, to their astonishment; and then with a clear voice I sounded Repentance three times, and gave testimony as the sound of a trumpet among them, that the life of Christ and his Saints was arisen from the dead; and so passed away, sounding the same words of the Lord's Message, with Repentance, through the streets, as it were, flying from the Idols temple, and from Idolatry, and Idolaters, until I came to the sea-side, and there was I moved to kneel down and pray, and give thanks to the living Lord, who had so wonderfully preserved me in doing his pleasure and good will on earth; and he suffered no man to touch or do me harm.

And the next day following the Lord God gave opportunity accordingly as I had let the ship-master know I believed would come to pass, and it was so, and all the Fleet did partake of the blessing: But how many of them rewarded me (men of my own Nation, to whom I also continued a sign, which they spake bitter things against) the Lord my God saw the same, and smote them with rebuke and astonishment in his displeasure, who in his wise determinate Counsel, ordained me for many dayes and nights to be tryed on this wise, and to fall among divers temptations afterwards, the which as a mighty

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[illegible] yield to his all-sufficient power, and strength; that the [illegible]
society in a mysterie was suffered to compass me about, to steale away my
peace and reward with my God, in whom the same is hid: and then I was in a
blessed condition, though sometime veiled for a little season, and then the
Fathers countenance was hid from mine eye, and therefore was I troubled:
Yet blessed are ye when you fall among divers temptations, saith one; and ve-
rily they were even as thorns in my flesh, yea as Messengers of Satan suffered
to buffet me for a season, even as the servant of God witnessed, who was wrapt
up into the third Heaven: What if I should somewhat restrise, so was it with
me, lest I should be exalted above measure, so that I was made to bow and
fall upon my face, and cry day and night to the Lord of Eternal life, that had
respect to the tears of the innocent, and bowed the strength of his arm to sup-
port the lowly: And so his Almightiness gave ear to the sighs and groans of
my distressed state, and had respect unto the voice of my mourning, as a Dove
or Pelican in the Wildernes; and verily his Grace I found sufficient to save
and preserve my innocency, in its sweet life of holiness to the Lord, through
all this, and that which lasted, salvation to his Name, *Amen*. So his strength
is made perfect in weakness, even so it is in truth, in which I set to my seal of
my right hand, that God is true, in which life I give thanks to his Name of
Power and Defence, the which over all Nations is to be exalted in the hearts
of his Saints, as in the ancient dayes, yea and much more abundantly in the
Light of his bright-shining countenance, in which his Eternal and excellent
glory, and pure dreadful Majesty, for ever hath his holy habitation; to whom
be endless Dominion, with praises living and everlasting, over all, *Amen*.

Written in Newgate *this 5th. Month, the 18th. day, 1662. where he suffereth Bonds, together with many Brethren of Truth, for one and the same Testimony of the Lord Jesus, not for evil doing or speaking, but against the same: For we suffer because we cannot otherwise but meet together in the Name and Fear of God; neither swear at all, neither by Heaven, nor by Earth, nor by any other Oath,* Matth. 5. James 5. 12. *D. B.*

A Copy of a Paper which was written in the Spanish Tongue, and delivered the same day that I was upon the service, directed as followeth, Viz.

For the Governor and Inhabitants of *Gibleore*, in the Kingdom of *Spain*.

Behold, behold, the great day of God is come, and of his wrath, and of the wrath of his Lamb is come, and the hour of his Judgements is come, Wherefore Oh Inhabitants of the earth, Repent, Repent, Repent, and fear God, and give glory & honor to him that made Heaven and Earth, and the Fountains of Waters: Woe, woe, woe to the Inhabitants of the earth: And I heard another voice from Heaven, saying, Come out of her my people, that ye partake not of her sins, & that ye receive not of her plagues. These are the words of the power of Christ that is contrary to the *false Church*.

Behold, behold, Plagues, Plagues, Plagues are coming upon the Church of Rome, and upon her Heads in England, *& in all parts of the world. And the Woman which thou sawest is that great City which reigneth over the Kings of the earth; and he saith unto me, the waters which thou sawest where the Whore sitteth, are Peoples, Nations, Multitudes and Tongues*, &c.

These words, with a Paper in Latine with honest words of truth, was deli-
vered with many more Scriptures in their own Language, that they may read,
understand, repent, & cease from idolatry, & from all ungodliness, that the
blessings of Eternal life might arise through Judgement, & have room among
them, to the eternal glory & renown of the Lord God over all who is